



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 117th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 168

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2022

No. 189

House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Prepare our hearts, O Lord, to accept the path You have set before us. In the desert of uncertainty and anticipation, make the way straight.

Then may the valleys of discordant voices and opposing opinions be filled in, every mountain of pride and every hill of self-promotion be leveled. May every precipitous issue become a plateau of collegial discourse, and the rough places of doubt become a plain smoothed by faith.

Reveal to us, O Lord, the glory of Your presence, that all of us, from every corner, from each side of the divide, would see it together. Speak, O Lord, that the words from Your mouth would be sweet to our ears and spoken from our lips.

Then, Lord, come with might, that Your arm would rule in our lives, and our reward would be to dwell in Your generous and gracious presence.

Feed us, O Shepherd, with Your word. Gather us together like sheep in Your fold. Carry this body close with You that we would remain with You this day and always.

In the strength of Your name we pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the Chamber her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1 of rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. MCGOVERN led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3648, EQUAL ACCESS TO GREEN CARDS FOR LEGAL EMPLOYMENT ACT OF 2022; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 7946, VETERAN SERVICE RECOGNITION ACT OF 2022; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Mr. MCGOVERN, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 117-590) on the resolution (H. Res. 1508) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3648) to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to eliminate the per-country numerical limitation for employment-based immigrants, to increase the per-country numerical limitation for family-sponsored immigrants, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 7946) to provide benefits for noncitizen members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3648, EQUAL ACCESS TO GREEN CARDS FOR LEGAL EMPLOYMENT ACT OF 2022; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 7946, VETERAN SERVICE RECOGNITION ACT OF 2022; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I

call up House Resolution 1508 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 1508

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 3648) to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to eliminate the per-country numerical limitation for employment-based immigrants, to increase the per-country numerical limitation for family-sponsored immigrants, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on the Judiciary now printed in the bill, modified by the amendment printed in part A of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution, shall be considered as adopted. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto, to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary or their respective designees; (2) the further amendment printed in part B of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution, if offered by the Member designated in the report, which shall be in order without intervention of any point of order, shall be considered as read, shall be separately debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question; and (3) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 2. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 7946) to provide benefits for noncitizen members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on the Judiciary now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. The previous question shall be

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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H8759

considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto, to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary or their respective designees; (2) the further amendment printed in part C of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution, if offered by the Member designated in the report, which shall be in order without intervention of any point of order, shall be considered as read, shall be separately debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question; and (3) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 3. (a) At any time through the legislative day of Thursday, December 8, 2022, the Speaker may entertain motions offered by the Majority Leader or a designee that the House suspend the rules as though under clause 1 of rule XV with respect to multiple measures described in subsection (b), and the Chair shall put the question on any such motion without debate or intervening motion.

(b) A measure referred to in subsection (a) includes any measure that was the object of a motion to suspend the rules on the legislative day of December 5, 2022, December 6, 2022, December 7, 2022, or December 8, 2022, in the form as so offered, on which the yeas and nays were ordered and further proceedings postponed pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX.

(c) Upon the offering of a motion pursuant to subsection (a) concerning multiple measures, the ordering of the yeas and nays on postponed motions to suspend the rules with respect to such measures is vacated to the end that all such motions are considered as withdrawn.

SEC. 4. Notwithstanding clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on a vote by the yeas and nays on the question of adoption of a motion that the House suspend the rules offered on the legislative day of December 5, 2022 may be postponed through the legislative day of December 8, 2022.

SEC. 5. The requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII for a two-thirds vote to consider a report from the Committee on Rules on the same day it is presented to the House is waived with respect to any resolution reported through the remainder of the One Hundred Seventeenth Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CARBAJAL). The gentleman from Massachusetts is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mrs. FISCHBACH), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Massachusetts?

There was no objection.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, yesterday the Rules Committee met and reported a rule, House Resolution 1508, providing for consideration of two measures: H.R. 3648 and H.R. 7946.

The rule provides for consideration of both H.R. 3648 and H.R. 7946 under structured rules with 1 hour of debate each equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary, self-executes a manager's amendment from Chairman NADLER for H.R. 3648, makes in order one amendment for each bill, and provides one motion to recommit for each measure.

The rule provides the majority leader or his designee the ability this week to en bloc requested roll call votes on suspensions. The rule also provides that roll call votes on suspension bills considered on December 5 may be postponed through December 8. Lastly, the rule provides same-day authority for any rule reported through the remainder of the 117th Congress.

Mr. Speaker, today we will consider two bills to reform our immigration system. Our current laws that govern employment-based and family-sponsored immigration visas desperately need updates. Estimates suggest that more than 880,000 people are in the green card backlog because of how broken our system is.

H.R. 3648, the Equal Access to Green Cards for Legal Employment, or EAGLE, Act of 2022 begins to address the extensive green card backlog.

The legislation eliminates per-country caps on employment-based visas and raises per-country caps for family-based visas to 15 percent.

The other bill up for consideration today is H.R. 7946, the Veteran Service Recognition Act. It improves naturalization for noncitizens who served in our country's military. It seems straightforward to me. If you have risked your life to protect and defend this country, you and your family deserve every opportunity to become U.S. citizens, if desired.

Now, while these two bills offer important reforms to our immigration system, I still personally believe there are also other urgent immigration issues that need to be addressed before the 117th Congress adjourns.

We need residency for Dreamers, these young people who have known no other home but the United States.

We must provide secure, stable immigration for agricultural workers who ensure food reaches our tables.

We should recapture existing visas that have gone unused so we can really make a sizable dent in reducing immigration backlogs.

And we need to regularize the status of long-term TPS holders who have been here for decades and are important members of our local communities.

Republicans always talk about issues within our immigration system, but so far none have come to the table with any meaningful, realistic, or productive solutions that would help fix it. They can't get to "yes" on anything. They demonize immigrants. They scapegoat immigrants, and rather than fix the challenges of our system, they use immigration as a wedge issue.

Democrats, on the other hand, want comprehensive immigration reform. We are ready, willing, and able to work with anyone who seriously wants to get something done. It is time for our colleagues across the aisle to join us in this effort.

These bills today are just the start, and my hope is that we are able to make more progress on this front before the end of the year.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to support this rule, and I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 0915

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Representative from Massachusetts for yielding me the customary 30 minutes, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Today, we are here to discuss H.R. 3648, the Equal Access to Green Cards for Legal Employment, or the EAGLE Act, and H.R. 7946, the Veteran Service Recognition Act.

The EAGLE Act would do away with country caps for certain employment-based green cards. Unfortunately, the bill we are debating today changes a carefully negotiated and agreed-upon bill from last Congress, favoring a Democrat go-it-alone approach that, unfortunately, we have seen all too often in this body over the last 2 years.

One of the most shocking changes is the exclusion of critical language to prevent those associated with the Chinese Communist Party or the Chinese armed forces from admission to these immigration programs.

When this came through the Judiciary Committee, Congressman BISHOP offered an amendment to add language that once again clarified that CCP members are ineligible to participate in these programs. That amendment failed on a party-line vote. We all know the CCP is not a good-faith actor, and I am appalled that the majority would risk our national security by rejecting that amendment.

H.R. 7946, the Veteran Service Recognition Act, aims to establish a program within the DHS for noncitizens to receive citizenship through service in the military. Based on the title, it sounds like a good bill.

Of course, those who served honorably in the Armed Forces should be honored for their valor and sacrifice. But despite the title, this bill did not even go through the Veterans' Affairs Committee.

Why? Because it is just one more example of the Democrats exploiting a sympathetic population to push their open border policies. They should be ashamed.

I will also point out that there are already procedures in place by which noncitizen servicemembers can be rewarded for their sacrifices for this country. The Immigration and Nationality Act established special avenues to naturalize members or veterans in the U.S. military. These procedures have been in place since 2002.

Under the current INA, it rightfully does not offer this opportunity to those who are dishonorably discharged or those who have committed a serious crime. But the bill we are discussing today, either through poor drafting or purposeful vagueness, does offer a citizenship path to those people.

In the Judiciary Committee, several amendments were offered to ensure dangerous criminals did not receive an adjustment of immigration status, amendments that included crimes like illicit trafficking in firearms and human trafficking, and each amendment failed.

Why are my colleagues across the aisle so eager to have criminals on the streets of our communities?

This bill doesn't even apply to just veterans. It would expand protections for noncitizen family members of veterans, who would otherwise be deported for committing crimes. Drug smugglers, human traffickers, and domestic abusers who never even served in our Armed Forces would be allowed to avoid deportation because of this bill.

I am also concerned that this bill relies heavily on the interpretation of the Secretary of Homeland Security. As it is written, DHS does not have to deport nearly anyone, leaving it to the DHS Secretary to exercise discretion in almost all cases.

Secretary Mayorkas has done nothing to ease the immigration crisis in this country.

Do we really want to give someone like that more responsibility?

I am skeptical that an individual who can't even admit that the border is not secure will treat this increased discretion in a manner that is required to keep our communities safe.

Before I reserve, I will note that the rule before us provides no Republican amendments in order, continuing a trend by this majority of stifling debate and suppressing the minority party's opportunity to offer changes or ideas to improve the underlying bills.

Mr. Speaker, it is for that reason I oppose the rule, and I ask Members to do the same.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Let me just say that here is the problem: We just heard from my colleague from Minnesota that Republicans are more interested in gimmicky amendments and sound bites as a way to try to get people to do nothing. I mean, they are the party of "no" when it comes to immigration.

My colleague says somehow that the Democrats are blocking attempts to ban people associated with communist or totalitarian parties, that somehow we want to admit them into this country. Well, here is the reality, and this is the fact, and people can check this: Current law says individuals associated with a communist or totalitarian party are already inadmissible under section 212(a)(3)(d) of the Immigration and Nationality Act. That is the current law.

At some point maybe my friends on the other side will want to help fix the immigration system, rather than just demagogue the issue over and over and over again.

This is an issue, by the way, that is important to our economic well-being. Our business community wants these bills passed in part because they are having a tough time trying to fill current jobs.

So we can demagogue the issue, and if that is what you want to do, fine; or you can actually legislate and get something done.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I want to comment on the so-called gimmicky amendments. I don't see it as gimmicky when we are trying to stop criminals from staying in our country. I don't see it as gimmicky when we are trying to stop human traffickers. I don't see it as gimmicky when we are trying to stop those who have trafficked firearms. I don't see that as gimmicky. I see that as trying to protect the people of the country and making sure that we do not allow criminals to continue to stay in our country.

As for the issue of current law, if it is the case that those associated with the CCP are already not allowed under current law, then there is no issue to just put this in the bill just in case and make sure that we have satisfied the concerns of people who are concerned about allowing those CCP members into the country.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, again, on traffickers and gun smugglers, and you name it, those things are already illegal, but whatever. It is not worth getting into it.

Mr. Speaker, I have no other speakers on my side, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close, and I yield myself the balance of my time.

This majority all too often uses flowery titles to mask the bill's true meaning. The Veteran Service Recognition Act is another one of these examples. It leads the public to believe we are looking at a bill that would recognize the service of our veterans. But once again, when you take a closer look, it becomes painfully clear that this is another push for open borders. This bill intends to pave a far broader pathway to citizenship not just for veterans. A path already exists for veterans since 2002, but this bill opens a path to criminals, something Democrats rejected every opportunity they had to keep criminals out of the program.

In just 2 short years, the American people have watched as the situation at the southern border has deteriorated into nothing short of a crisis. I would have hoped that my colleagues would

treat this situation a little more seriously, but unfortunately, I have come to expect nothing less.

This bill is just one more example of how deeply unserious my colleagues in the majority are of addressing the disaster at our southern border. I oppose this rule, and I ask Members to do the same.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Let me remind all my colleagues that the Veteran Service Recognition Act is actually supported by the American Legion, one of our leading veterans' organizations in this country, but I guess that is not enough for some of my Republican colleagues again saying "no" to everything.

Mr. Speaker, the EAGLE Act and the Veteran Service Recognition Act provide necessary reforms that will improve our immigration system. I know so much more can be done—as I said before, we need to do more—but these two bills are small steps that we can take now to help clear backlogs and ensure that those who not only have played by the rules, but have sacrificed in the service of our Nation can become citizens. They are important policies that should become law.

I read today that some of my friends on the other side of the aisle are urging their next leader—I don't know who it will be—to use the debt ceiling not only to cut Social Security and Medicare and a whole bunch of other programs that are vital, including nutrition programs, but they want to use it as leverage to go after immigrants to mess up our immigration system even more. What a rotten way to legislate, to use the debt ceiling as an excuse to try to derail government.

We already know what the Republicans are capable of doing. The last time they were in charge of the House and the Senate and the White House, they shut the government down and they left. That is their idea of responsible governing.

Well, we shouldn't be using the debt ceiling as leverage. We should actually be paying our bills that we have accumulated. If you don't like the spending—I didn't like Donald Trump's tax cut that benefited mostly wealthy people in this country; I nonetheless voted to increase the debt ceiling because we had accumulated all of that debt because of that terrible tax cut geared to the rich. It is the responsible thing to do. It really is kind of disturbing to hear some of the priorities of my Republican friends.

As I said before, their policy on immigration has been consistent. Demagogue, demagogue, demagogue. Fix nothing. They blame immigrants for everything. It is raining out today; they will blame immigrants. Having a fight with their spouse; well, it must be the fault of immigrants. Having a bad day; let's blame immigrants. That is their MO. That is what they have done,

and it really is offensive. It betrays the highest values of this country.

The two bills before us are modest. There is much more we need to do. As I said, we need to help the Dreamers. We need to fix the issue for our TPS holders. We owe that to them.

Mr. Speaker, let me close by saying that we are going to spend the next few weeks legislating and delivering for the American people, and I urge some of my colleagues to join with us in getting things done, or they can simply do what they usually do and complain and complain and demagogue and demagogue.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a “yes” vote on the rule and on the previous question.

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The previous question was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on adoption of the resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question are postponed.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 28 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1000

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. RUIZ) at 10 a.m.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3648, EQUAL ACCESS TO GREEN CARDS FOR LEGAL EMPLOYMENT ACT OF 2022; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 7946, VETERAN SERVICE RECOGNITION ACT OF 2022; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on adoption of the resolution (H. Res. 1508) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3648) to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to eliminate the per-country numerical limitation for employment-based immigrants, to increase the per-country numerical limitation for family-sponsored immigrants, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill H.R. 7946, to provide benefits for noncitizen members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; and for other purposes,

on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on adoption of the resolution.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 215, nays 201, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 501]

YEAS—215

Adams	Golden	Omar
Agullar	Gomez	Pallone
Allred	Gonzalez,	Panetta
Auchincloss	Vicente	Pappas
Axne	Gottheimer	Pascarell
Barragan	Green, Al (TX)	Payne
Bass	Grijalva	Peltola
Beatty	Harder (CA)	Perlmutter
Bera	Hayes	Peters
Beyer	Higgins (NY)	Phillips
Bishop (GA)	Himes	Pingree
Blumenauer	Horsford	Pocan
Blunt Rochester	Houlihan	Porter
Bonamici	Hoyer	Pressley
Bourdeaux	Huffman	Price (NC)
Bowman	Jackson Lee	Quigley
Boyle, Brendan	Jacobs (CA)	Raskin
F.	Jayapal	Rice (NY)
Brown (MD)	Jeffries	Ross
Brown (OH)	Johnson (GA)	Roybal-Allard
Brownley	Johnson (TX)	Ruiz
Bush	Kahele	Ruppersberger
Bustos	Kaptur	Rush
Butterfield	Keating	Ryan (NY)
Carbajal	Kelly (IL)	Ryan (OH)
Cárdenas	Khanna	Sánchez
Carson	Kildee	Sarbanes
Carter (LA)	Kilmer	Scanlon
Cartwright	Kim (NJ)	Schakowsky
Case	Kind	Schiff
Casten	Kirkpatrick	Schneider
Castor (FL)	Krishnamoorthi	Schrader
Castro (TX)	Kuster	Schrier
Cherfilus-	Lamb	Scott (VA)
McCormick	Larsen (WA)	Scott, David
Chu	Larson (CT)	Sewell
Cicilline	Lawrence	Sherman
Clark (MA)	Lawson (FL)	Sherrill
Clarke (NY)	Lee (CA)	Sires
Cleaver	Lee (NV)	Slotkin
Clyburn	Leger Fernandez	Smith (WA)
Cohen	Levin (CA)	Soto
Connolly	Levin (MI)	Spanberger
Cooper	Lieu	Stansbury
Correa	Lofgren	Stanton
Costa	Lowenthal	Stevens
Courtney	Luria	Strickland
Craig	Lynch	Suozi
Crow	Malinowski	Swalwell
Cuellar	Maloney,	Takano
Davids (KS)	Carolyn B.	Thompson (CA)
Davis, Danny K.	Maloney, Sean	Thompson (MS)
Dean	Manning	Titus
DeFazio	Matsui	Tlaib
DeGette	McBath	Tonko
DeLauro	McCollum	Torres (CA)
DelBene	McGovern	Torres (NY)
Demings	McNerney	Trahan
DeSaulnier	Meeks	Trone
Dingell	Meng	Underwood
Doggett	Mfume	Vargas
Doyle, Michael	Moore (WI)	Veasey
F.	Morelle	Velázquez
Escobar	Moulton	Wasserman
Eshoo	Mrvan	Schultz
Espallat	Murphy (FL)	Waters
Evans	Nadler	Watson Coleman
Fletcher	Napolitano	Welch
Foster	Neal	Wexton
Frankel, Lois	Neguse	Wild
Gallego	Newman	Williams (GA)
Garamendi	Norcross	Wilson (FL)
García (IL)	O'Halleran	Yarmuth
García (TX)	Ocasio-Cortez	

NAYS—201

Aderholt	Baird	Bilirakis
Allen	Balderson	Bishop (NC)
Amodei	Banks	Boebert
Armstrong	Barr	Bost
Arrington	Bentz	Brady
Babin	Bice (OK)	Brooks
Bacon	Biggs	Buchanan

Buck	Grothman	Nehls
Bucshon	Guest	Newhouse
Budd	Guthrie	Norman
Burchett	Harshbarger	Obernolte
Burgess	Hartzler	Owens
Calvert	Hern	Palazzo
Cammack	Herrell	Palmer
Carey	Herrera Beutler	Pence
Carl	Higgins (LA)	Perry
Carter (GA)	Hill	Pfleger
Carter (TX)	Hinson	Posey
Chabot	Hudson	Reschenthaler
Cline	Huizenga	Rice (SC)
Cloud	Issa	Rodgers (WA)
Clyde	Jackson	Rogers (AL)
Cole	Jacobs (NY)	Rogers (KY)
Comer	Johnson (LA)	Rose
Conway	Johnson (OH)	Rosendale
Crawford	Johnson (SD)	Rouzer
Crenshaw	Jordan	Roy
Curtis	Joyce (OH)	Salazar
Davidson	Joyce (PA)	Scalise
Davis, Rodney	Katko	Schweikert
Diaz-Balart	Keller	Scott, Austin
Donalds	Kelly (MS)	Sempolinski
Dunn	Kelly (PA)	Sessions
Ellzey	Kim (CA)	Simpson
Emmer	Kustoff	Smith (MO)
Estes	LaHood	Smith (NE)
Fallon	LaMalfa	Smith (NJ)
Feenstra	Lamborn	Smucker
Ferguson	Latta	Spartz
Finstad	LaTurner	Staubert
Fischbach	Lesko	Steel
Fitzgerald	Letlow	Stefanik
Fitzpatrick	Long	Steil
Fleischmann	Loudermilk	Steube
Flood	Lucas	Stewart
Flores	Luetkemeyer	Taylor
Foxx	Mace	Tenney
Franklin, C.	Malliotakis	Thompson (PA)
Scott	Mann	Tiffany
Fulcher	Massie	Timmons
Gaetz	Mast	Turner
Gallagher	McCarthy	Upton
Garbarino	McCaul	Valadao
García (CA)	McClain	Van Drew
Gibbs	McClintock	Van Dwyne
Gimenez	McHenry	Wagner
Gohmert	McKinley	Walberg
Gonzales, Tony	Meijer	Waltz
Gonzalez (OH)	Meuser	Weber (TX)
Good (VA)	Miller (IL)	Wenstrup
Gooden (TX)	Miller (WV)	Westerman
Gosar	Miller-Meeks	Williams (TX)
Granger	Moolenaar	Wilson (SC)
Graves (LA)	Mooney	Wittman
Graves (MO)	Moore (AL)	Womack
Green (TN)	Moore (UT)	Yakym
Greene (GA)	Mullin	
Griffith	Murphy (NC)	

NOT VOTING—15

Bergman	Harris	Langevin
Cawthorn	Hice (GA)	Rutherford
Cheney	Hollingsworth	Speier
DesJarlais	Jones	Webster (FL)
Duncan	Kinzinger	Zeldin

□ 1037

Ms. GRANGER and Mr. BUDD changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated against:

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, Please accept this personal explanation as I was unexpectedly detained during vote proceedings. Had I been present, I would have voted “nay” on rollcall No. 501.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Baird (Bucshon)	DeFazio	Frankel, Lois
Bass (Cicilline)	(Pallone)	(Meng)
Beatty (Neguse)	Demings (Blunt)	Gallego
Brooks	Rochester)	(Cicilline)
(Fleischmann)	Doyle, Michael	Gosar (Weber
Cole (Lucas)	F. (Pallone)	(TX))
Cooper (Beyer)	Dunn (Cammack)	Grijalva (Neguse)
Cuellar (Correa)		

Johnson (TX)	Newman (Correa)	Simpson
(Pallone)	O'Halleran	(Fulcher)
Kildee (Pappas)	(Pappas)	Sires (Pallone)
Kind (Beyer)	Palazzo	Stanton
Kirkpatrick	(Fleischmann)	(Huffman)
(Pallone)	Payne (Pallone)	Steube
Lieu (Beyer)	Pressley	(Franklin, C.
Long	(Neguse)	Scott)
(Fleischmann)	Roybal-Allard	Titus (Pallone)
Lowenthal	(Correa)	Van Drew
(Beyer)	Ruppersberger	(Tenney)
Malliotakis	(Sarbanes)	Waters (Garcia
(Gimenez)	Ryan (OH)	(TX))
Moore (Beyer)	(Correa)	Welch (Pallone)

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 41 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1304

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. PERLMUTTER) at 1 o'clock and 4 minutes p.m.

VETERAN SERVICE RECOGNITION ACT OF 2022

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 1508, I call up the bill (H.R. 7946) to provide benefits for noncitizen members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 1508, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on the Judiciary, printed in the bill, is adopted and the bill, as amended, is considered read.

The text of the bill, as amended, is as follows:

H.R. 7946

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Veteran Service Recognition Act of 2022".

SEC. 2. STUDY AND REPORT ON NONCITIZEN VETERANS REMOVED FROM THE UNITED STATES.

(a) **STUDY REQUIRED.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall jointly carry out a study on noncitizen veterans and noncitizen former members of the Armed Forces who were removed from the United States during the period beginning on January 1, 1990, and ending on the date of the enactment of this Act, which shall include the following:

(1) The number of noncitizens removed by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement or the Immigration and Naturalization Service during the period covered by the report who served in the Armed Forces for an aggregate period of more than 180 days.

(2) For each noncitizen described in paragraph (1)—

(A) the country of nationality or last habitual residence of the noncitizen;

(B) the total length of time the noncitizen served as a member of the Armed Forces;

(C) each ground on which the noncitizen was ordered removed under section 237(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1227(a)) or section 212(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)), as applicable; and

(D) whether the noncitizen appealed the removal order to the Board of Immigration Appeals.

(3) Each of the following enumerations:

(A) The number of noncitizens described in paragraph (1) who were discharged or released from service under honorable conditions.

(B) The number of noncitizens described in paragraph (1) who were discharged or released from service under other than honorable conditions.

(C) The number of noncitizens described in paragraph (1) who were deployed overseas.

(D) The number of noncitizens described in paragraph (1) who served on active duty in the Armed Forces in an overseas contingency operation.

(E) The number of noncitizens described in paragraph (1) who were awarded decorations or medals.

(F) The number of noncitizens described in paragraph (1) who applied for benefits under laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

(G) The number of noncitizens described in paragraph (1) who receive benefits described in subparagraph (F).

(4) A description of the reasons preventing any of the noncitizens who applied for benefits described in paragraph (3)(F) from receiving such benefits.

(b) **REPORT.**—Not later than 90 days after the date of the completion of the study required under subsection (a), the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall jointly submit a report containing the results of such study to the appropriate congressional committees.

SEC. 3. INFORMATION SYSTEM ON VETERANS SUBJECT TO REMOVAL.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall create—

(1) a protocol for identifying noncitizens who are or may be veterans; and

(2) a system for maintaining information about noncitizen veterans identified pursuant to the protocol created under paragraph (1) and information provided by the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness under section 4(d).

(b) **INFORMATION SHARING.**—The system shall be shared across all components of the Department of Homeland Security, including Enforcement and Removal Operations, the Office of the Principal Legal Advisor, Homeland Security Investigations, and the Military Family Immigration Advisory Committee.

(c) **CONSIDERATION OF VETERAN STATUS.**—The Secretary of Homeland Security shall ensure that, in the case of any noncitizen veteran who is potentially removable, and in any removal proceeding against such a noncitizen veteran, information available under this system is taken into consideration, including for purposes of any adjudication on the immigration status of such veteran.

(d) **USE OF SYSTEM REQUIRED.**—The Secretary of Homeland Security may not initiate removal proceedings against an individual prior to using the system established under subsection (a) to attempt to determine whether the individual is a veteran. If the Secretary of Homeland Security determines that such an individual is or may be a veteran, the Secretary shall notify the Military Family Immigration Advisory Committee concurrently upon initiating removal proceedings against such individual.

(e) **TRAINING.**—Beginning in the first fiscal year that begins after the Secretary of Home-

land Security completes the requirements under subsection (a), personnel of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement shall participate, on an annual basis, in a training on the protocol developed under this section.

SEC. 4. MILITARY FAMILY IMMIGRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall establish an advisory committee, to be known as the "Military Family Immigration Advisory Committee", to provide recommendations to the Secretary of Homeland Security on the exercise of discretion in any case involving removal proceedings for—

(1) a member of the Armed Forces;

(2) a veteran; or

(3) a covered family member.

(b) **MEMBERSHIP.**—The Advisory Committee shall be composed of 9 members, appointed by the Secretary of Homeland Security.

(c) **CASE REVIEWS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 30 days after the Advisory Committee identifies or is notified about the case of an individual described in subsection (a), the Advisory Committee shall meet to review the case and to provide a written recommendation to the Secretary of Homeland Security on whether—

(A) an exercise of discretion is warranted, including—

(i) termination of removal proceedings;

(ii) parole;

(iii) deferred action;

(iv) a stay of removal;

(v) administrative closure; or

(vi) authorization to apply for any other form of relief; or

(B) to continue seeking the removal of such individual.

(2) **SUBMISSION OF INFORMATION.**—An individual who is the subject of a case review under paragraph (1) may submit information to the Advisory Committee, and the Advisory Committee shall consider such information.

(3) **PROCEDURES.**—In conducting each case review under paragraph (1), the Advisory Committee shall consider, as factors weighing in favor of a recommendation under paragraph (1)(A)—

(A) with respect to a member of the Armed Forces, whether the individual—

(i) was an enlisted member or officer of the Armed Forces;

(ii) received a medal or decoration, was deployed, or was otherwise evaluated for merit in service during his or her service in the Armed Forces;

(iii) is a national of a country that prohibits repatriation of an individual after any service in the Armed Forces; or

(iv) contributed to his or her local community during his or her service in the Armed Forces;

(B) with respect to a veteran, whether the individual—

(i) was an enlisted member or officer of the Armed Forces;

(ii) completed a period of service in the Armed Forces and was discharged under conditions other than dishonorable;

(iii) received a medal or decoration, was deployed, or was otherwise evaluated for merit in service during his or her service in the Armed Forces;

(iv) is a national of a country that prohibits repatriation of an individual after any service in the Armed Forces of another country; or

(v) contributed to his or her local community during or after his or her service in the Armed Forces; and

(C) with respect to a covered family member, whether the individual—

(i) supported a member of the Armed Forces serving on active duty or a veteran, including through financial support, emotional support, or caregiving; or

(ii) contributed to his or her local community during or after the military service of the member or of the veteran.

(4) **PRECLUDING FACTOR.**—In conducting each case review under paragraph (1), the Advisory Committee shall consider, as a factor requiring a recommendation under paragraph (1)(B), whether the member of the Armed Forces, veteran, or covered family member has been convicted of 5 offenses for driving while intoxicated (including a conviction under the influence of or impaired by alcohol or drugs), unless the conviction is older than 25 years.

(d) **BRIEFINGS ON NONCITIZEN VETERANS.**—The Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness shall provide detailed briefings to the Advisory Committee regarding the service of a noncitizen veteran when that individual's case is being considered by the Advisory Committee.

(e) **BRIEFINGS ON ACTIONS IN RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATIONS.**—Not less frequently than quarterly, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall provide detailed briefings to the Advisory Committee regarding actions taken in response to the recommendations of the Advisory Committee, including detailed explanations for any cases in which a recommendation of the Advisory Committee was not followed.

(f) **TRANSFER OF CASE FILES.**—For any individual with respect to whom the Advisory Committee is conducting a case review under this section, the Secretary of Defense and Secretary of Homeland Security shall provide to the Advisory Committee a copy of any available record pertaining to that individual, including such individual's alien file, that is relevant to the case review.

(g) **LIMITATION ON REMOVAL.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an individual described in subsection (a) may not be ordered removed until the Advisory Committee has provided a recommendation with respect to that individual to the Secretary of Homeland Security.

(h) **LIMITATION ON ELIGIBILITY FOR CASE REVIEW.**—An individual who is inadmissible based on a conviction of an aggravated felony described in subparagraph (A) of section 101(a)(43) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(43)) shall be ineligible for a case review under this section.

SEC. 5. PROGRAM OF CITIZENSHIP THROUGH MILITARY SERVICE.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—

(1) **PROGRAM ESTABLISHED.**—The Secretary of Homeland Security, acting through the Director of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, and in coordination with the Secretary of Defense, shall jointly implement a program to ensure that—

(A) each eligible noncitizen is afforded the opportunity to file an application for naturalization at any point on or after the first day of service on active duty or first day of service as a member of the Selected Reserve pursuant to section 329 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1440); and

(B) the duly authenticated certification (or any other successor form) required under section 329(b)(3) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1140(b)(3)) is issued to each noncitizen not later than 30 days after the individual makes a request for such certification.

(2) **ELIGIBLE NONCITIZEN.**—For purposes of this subsection, the term “eligible noncitizen” means a noncitizen who serves or has served in the Armed Forces of the United States during any period that the President by Executive order designates as a period during which the Armed Forces of the United States are or were engaged in military operations involving armed conflict with a hostile foreign force.

(b) **JAG TRAINING.**—The Secretary of Defense shall ensure that appropriate members of the Judge Advocate General Corps of each Armed Force receive training to function as liaisons with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services with respect to applications for citizenship of noncitizen members of the Armed Forces.

(c) **TRAINING FOR RECRUITERS.**—The Secretary of Defense shall ensure that all recruiters in the Armed Forces receive training regarding—

(1) the steps required for a noncitizen member of the Armed Forces to receive citizenship;

(2) limitations on the path to citizenship for family members of such individuals; and

(3) points of contact at the Department of Homeland Security to resolve emergency immigration-related situations with respect to such individuals and their family members.

(d) **ANNUAL REPORTS.**—The Secretary of each military department shall annually submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the number of all noncitizens who enlisted or were appointed in the military department concerned, all members of the Armed Forces in their department who naturalized, and all members of the Armed Forces in their department who were discharged or released without United States citizenship under the jurisdiction of such Secretary during the preceding year.

(e) **FURTHER FACILITATION NATURALIZATION FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL IN CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS.**—Any person who has served honorably as a member of the Armed Forces of the United States in support of a contingency operation (as defined in section 101(a)(13) of title 10, United States Code), and who, if separated from the Armed Forces, was separated under honorable conditions, may be naturalized as provided in section 329 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1440) as though the person had served during a period designated by the President under such section.

(f) **NATURALIZATION THROUGH SERVICE IN THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES.**—Section 328 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1439) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking “six months” and inserting “one year”; and

(2) in subsection (d), by striking “six months” and inserting “one year”.

SEC. 6. INFORMATION FOR MILITARY RECRUITS REGARDING NATURALIZATION THROUGH SERVICE IN THE ARMED FORCES.

The Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of Homeland Security, shall ensure that there is stationed or employed at each Military Entrance Processing Station—

(1) an employee of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services; or

(2) in the case that the Secretary determines that it is impracticable to station or employ a person described in paragraph (1) at a Military Entrance Processing Station, a member of the Armed Forces or an employee of the Department of Defense—

(A) whom the Secretary determines is trained in the immigration laws; and

(B) who shall inform each military recruit who is not a citizen of the United States processed at such Military Entrance Processing Station regarding naturalization through service in the Armed Forces under sections 328 and 329 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1439–1440).

SEC. 7. RETURN OF ELIGIBLE VETERANS REMOVED FROM THE UNITED STATES; ADJUSTMENT OF STATUS.

(a) **ELIGIBLE VETERANS.**—In the case of a noncitizen who has been issued a final order of removal, the Secretary of Homeland Security, may, notwithstanding such order of removal, adjust that noncitizen's status to that of an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence, or admit such noncitizen for lawful permanent residence if the Secretary determines that such noncitizen is a veteran and, consistent with subsection (b), is not inadmissible.

(b) **WAIVER.**—

(1) **AUTHORITY.**—In the case of a noncitizen veteran described in subsection (a), the Secretary of Homeland Security may waive any applicable ground of inadmissibility under section 212(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)) (other than paragraphs (3) and (2)(H) of such section 212(a), a finding of inadmissibility under paragraph (2)(A) based on a

conviction of an aggravated felony described in subparagraph (A), (I), or (K) of section 101(a)(43) (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(43)), or 5 convictions for driving while intoxicated (including a conviction for driving while under the influence of or impaired by alcohol or drugs) unless the conviction is older than 25 years, if the Secretary determines that it is in the public interest.

(2) **PUBLIC INTEREST CONSIDERATIONS.**—In determining whether a waiver described in paragraph (1) is in the public interest, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall consider factors including the noncitizen's service in the Armed Forces, and the recency and severity of any offense or conduct that forms the basis of a finding of inadmissibility under section 212(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)).

(c) **PROCEDURES.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall, by rule, establish procedures to carry out this section.

(d) **NO NUMERICAL LIMITATIONS.**—Individuals who are granted lawful permanent residence under this section shall not be subject to the numerical limitations under section 201, 202, or 203 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1151, 1152, or 1153).

(e) **CLARIFICATION.**—If a noncitizen veteran's status is adjusted under this section to that of an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence, or if such noncitizen is lawfully admitted for permanent residence, such adjustment or admission shall create a presumption that the noncitizen has established good moral character under paragraphs (1) through (8) of section 101(f) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(f)).

(f) **LIMITATION ON REMOVAL.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—A noncitizen who appears to be prima facie eligible for lawful permanent resident status under this section shall be given a reasonable opportunity to apply for such status. Such noncitizen shall not be removed from the United States until a final administrative decision establishing ineligibility for such status is rendered.

(2) **EFFECT OF FINAL ORDER.**—A noncitizen present in the United States who has been ordered removed or has been permitted to depart voluntarily from the United States may, notwithstanding such order or permission to depart, apply for lawful permanent resident status under this section. Such noncitizen shall not be required to file a separate motion to reopen, reconsider, or vacate the order of removal. If the Secretary of Homeland Security approves the application, the Secretary shall notify the Attorney General of such approval, and the Attorney General shall cancel the order of removal. If the Secretary renders a final administrative decision to deny the application, the order of removal or permission to depart shall be effective and enforceable to the same extent as if the application had not been made, only after all available administrative and judicial remedies have been exhausted.

SEC. 8. ADJUSTMENT OF STATUS FOR CERTAIN IMMEDIATE RELATIVES OF UNITED STATES CITIZEN SERVICE MEMBERS OR VETERANS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—For purposes of an application for adjustment of status pursuant to an approved petition for classification under section 204(a)(1)(A) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1154(a)(1)(A)), an alien described in subsection (b)—

(1) is deemed to have been inspected and admitted into the United States; and

(2) shall not be subject to paragraphs (6)(A), (6)(C), (7)(A), and (9) of section 212(a) of such Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)).

(b) **ALIEN DESCRIBED.**—An alien is described in subsection (a) if the alien is the beneficiary of an approved petition for classification under section 204(a)(1)(A) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1154(a)(1)(A)) as an immediate relative (as defined in section

201(b)(2)(A)(i) of such Act (8 U.S.C. 1151(b)(2)(A)(i))) of a citizen of the United States who—

(1) served, for a minimum of 2 years, on active duty in the Armed Forces or in a reserve component of the United States Armed Forces; and

(2) if discharged or released from service in the Armed Forces, was discharged or released under honorable conditions.

SEC. 9. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**—The term “Advisory Committee” means the Military Family Immigration Advisory Committee established pursuant to section 4.

(2) **APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.**—The term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(A) the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate;

(B) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate;

(C) the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate;

(D) the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate;

(E) the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives;

(F) the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives;

(G) the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives; and

(H) the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the House of Representatives.

(3) **ARMED FORCES.**—The term “Armed Forces” has the meaning given the term “armed forces” in section 101 of title 10, United States Code.

(4) **COVERED FAMILY MEMBER.**—The term “covered family member” means the noncitizen spouse or noncitizen child of—

(A) a member of the Armed Forces; or

(B) a veteran.

(5) **IMMIGRATION LAWS.**—The term “immigration laws” has the meaning given that term in section 101 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101).

(6) **NONCITIZEN.**—The term “noncitizen” means an individual who is not a citizen or national of the United States (as defined in section 101(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a))).

(7) **VETERAN.**—The term “veteran” has the meaning given such term in section 101 of title 38, United States Code.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The bill, as amended, shall be debatable for 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary or their respective designees.

After 1 hour of debate, it shall be in order to consider the further amendment printed in part C of House Report 117–590, if offered by the Member designated in the report, which shall be considered read, shall be separately debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, and shall not be subject to a demand for a division of the question.

The gentlewoman from California (Ms. LOFGREN) and the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCLINTOCK) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LOFGREN).

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material on H.R. 7946.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LOFGREN)?

There was no objection.

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, today, this House will pass H.R. 7946, the Veteran Service Recognition Act 2022. This is a bill that recognizes and honors the commitment and sacrifices of our noncitizen servicemembers and veterans.

Noncitizens have served in our military in every conflict since the Revolutionary War. In tribute to their patriotism, our laws offer noncitizen servicemembers an expedited pathway to citizenship.

Unfortunately, this expedited path is not always known to the servicemembers themselves; sometimes there is confusion or lack of information. Not every legal permanent resident who could avail themselves of this opportunity has, in fact, done so; and we have found instances where servicemembers believed that just by serving they had become a United States citizen. Our bill does have some measures to make sure that that information is better communicated in the future and there is less confusion.

However—and unfortunately—the complexity of the current immigration system puts some unnecessary roadblocks to naturalization but also can have a terrible impact on veterans who have not availed themselves of the opportunity.

The traumas of war can have terrible effects on our veterans. Individuals suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder are far more likely to become entangled with the criminal justice system. When that happens, citizens merely avail themselves of the criminal justice system. For example, if they are arrested for drug possession, they might serve time in the county jail, and when they are released, they have paid their debt to society. But noncitizens who are in the same situation—people who fought for our country—might serve their jail time for drug possession, but then they also face immigration court because a crime that might lead to relatively minor consequences for a U.S. citizen could lead to deportation of a noncitizen veteran.

Now, noncitizen veterans’ service records are meant to be considered during removal proceedings, but such consideration rarely occurs. Consequently, veterans who earned the right to citizenship decades ago have been deported.

H.R. 7946 corrects this problem by giving deported veterans the opportunity to apply for a second chance and obtain lawful permanent residency. Relief under this bill is discretionary—available only to those veterans whose return is in the public interest.

Additionally, the bill creates a review process for servicemembers in removal proceedings to ensure that their service records are taken into account by immigration judges. It has an advisory

council to examine at length the veteran’s record to see whether or not he or she was suffering from PTSD and the like. The information can then be given to the immigration judge, but the immigration judge retains the authority to make the decision.

The legislation, as I mentioned earlier, makes needed changes to current laws to allow servicemembers to naturalize as early as possible, and we believe these changes will ensure that future veterans will not be at risk of deportation.

Finally, H.R. 7946 codifies the current Parole in Place for the immediate relatives of U.S. citizen servicemembers and veterans, making permanent an administrative program that began in 2007 under then-President George W. Bush. At the time, we had come across instances where an American soldier was killed in action, but his mother was subject to deportation, and that mother who was sent outside of the country could not even visit the grave of her deceased military son.

George Bush sought to change that. We have kept that change in place ever since, and this would codify it.

This bill is supported by numerous advocacy, labor, and veterans’ groups, including The American Legion, the Nation’s largest veterans service organization. We made a commitment to our noncitizen servicemembers when they joined our Armed Forces, and our laws really should reflect that commitment.

I am proud to have worked alongside my colleagues, Chairman NADLER, as well as Chairman TAKANO, and I would like to mention specifically other members of our caucus who introduced bills on this subject—they were all collected into this final product—including Congressman CORREA, Congressman RUIZ, Congressman VARGAS, Congressman GRIJALVA, and several others.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, DHS Secretary Ali Mayorkas has repeatedly asserted, including in sworn testimony to multiple committees of this House, that the southern border is secure. This, of course, is a lie, and not even a subtle one.

We know the numbers—a stunning 4.1 million encounters since inauguration day, when Joe Biden reversed the Trump administration’s enforcement measures. In the same period, another 1 million known got-aways have entered the country while the border patrol has been overwhelmed changing diapers and arranging for transportation for thousands of illegal crossings each day.

So how do our Democratic colleagues react to this unprecedented illegal immigration they have unleashed?

Do they call on the Biden administration to stop the releases?

Do they call on the President to actually enforce U.S. immigration law or at least stop incentivizing this mass illegal immigration?

No. Instead, they produce this bill, that readmits immigrant veterans who were later deported, mainly for committing criminal offenses.

This needs to be clearly understood. A noncitizen who joins the military promising to defend our country, and instead commits crimes against the citizens of our country is subject to deportation, and rightly so.

This bill adds a political advisory committee, handpicked by Mr. Mayorkas that, in effect, can override our deportation laws, and it invites criminal offenders who have already been deported back into our country. It presumes they are of good moral character despite their criminal offenses simply by producing a green card. This is astonishing.

Let's be very clear, that the vast majority of legal immigrants who enlist in our military do so because of patriotism toward our country, and they are exemplary citizens and exemplary members of our Armed Forces. In recognition of their service, we offer them special avenues for naturalization under the Immigration and Nationality Act.

That is as it should be. About 3 percent of U.S. veterans today are foreign-born, and many of them have chosen to become U.S. citizens. But that is not what this bill is about. This bill is about the bad apples who have been ordered deported for breaking our laws.

Since its creation in 2002, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services has naturalized over 148,000 members of the U.S. military.

□ 1315

If an alien servicemember or veteran is removed from this country, it is only after that alien has had their due process in immigration court and an immigration judge has issued a final order of removal.

Alien servicemembers and veterans are also afforded a special process upon encounter by Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials, under which, through a totality of the circumstances approach, ICE agents determine whether arrest and placement in removal proceedings are the appropriate actions to take.

However, in this bill, the Democrats have decided that an advisory committee of people chosen by Secretary Mayorkas is better equipped to determine whether an alien's actions warrant removal than a trained ICE official.

Yesterday in the Committee on Rules, the chair of the subcommittee even indicated that these random people chosen by the Secretary would be better than a trained immigration judge at determining whether an alien should be able to stay in the U.S.

During the Committee on the Judiciary markup, my Republican colleagues

offered an array of amendments aimed at ensuring alien servicemembers, veterans, and their family members who committed serious crimes would not be able to benefit from the provisions in this bill that prevent removal and allow green cards to be issued.

We tried to prevent individuals with convictions for things like drug trafficking, firearms trafficking, explosives trafficking, perjury, domestic violence, obstruction of justice, and even illegal voting from being able to benefit from the bill's provisions, but the Democrats rejected nearly all such amendments.

They did reluctantly agree to exclude murderers, rapists, and child sex abusers as beneficiaries of this bill. I suppose we can claim some progress.

They couldn't even bring themselves to accept an amendment to preclude aliens who have DUI convictions from benefiting from this bill. They decided that five DUIs were too many. So, ridiculously, the bill allows aliens to have four DUI convictions and still benefit from this bill.

Democrats in committee also opposed an amendment to ensure that alien veterans who benefit from the bill were honorably discharged from the military. Right now, as the bill stands, it only requires that the alien have been discharged under other than honorable conditions.

Democrats also rejected a Republican amendment that would have given the victims of a crime committed by the alien servicemember a say in whether or not the alien should face immigration consequences.

This bill once again lays bare the true objectives of the Democrats. First, ignore the 4.1 million illegal aliens encountered by Border Patrol and the 1 million got-aways as well, blurring the distinction between legal immigrants who obey our laws and the millions of illegal immigrants that the Democrats are now happily allowing to stream into our country. Then, they introduce bills like this that blur the distinction between the many legal immigrants who have honorably served in our Nation's Armed Forces and the handful of bad apples who have broken our laws and have been ordered deported for doing so.

This is the woke insanity that grips the Democratic Party today. Thank God the voters have just broken their grip on the House of Representatives.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. I will note that the exclusion of those serious offenses was in the base bill. We didn't have to be convinced of that. We used the definition of "veterans" in the veterans code, and veterans who have an honorable or a general discharge are eligible for benefits, so that is what we used. Dishonorable discharges are not included.

I will just say this: These are discretionary matters. If you have multiple

DUIs—let's say you have three DUIs, but they are 25 years ago, and you have a completely clean record. You might be able to seek administrative review of that matter. That is all this does.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO), the chairman of the Veterans' Affairs Committee who has played such a key role in this, noting also that the Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America are supporting this bill and supporting Mr. TAKANO.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairwoman LOFGREN for her leadership and Chairman NADLER for his staunch support to move my bill, the Veteran Service Recognition Act, through committee and to bring it to the floor.

As chairman of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, one of my top priorities has been the prevention of undue noncitizen veteran deportations.

Most Americans would be shocked and in disbelief that we have deported people who have served in our military, have served in uniform, have even been in combat. They would be shocked to learn that we have done this, but it is true. We have actually taken American heroes who have served in our military and deported them.

While many would be shocked to learn that veterans who have served our country are being subjected to deportations, the number of these individuals is unknown because we have not kept adequate records on who these people are.

In 2019, Representative VARGAS and I requested that the Government Accountability Office evaluate the scope of servicemember and veteran deportations and determine the state of and adherence to DHS policies on such deportations, DHS' own policies.

What the GAO found was significant gaps not only in the Federal approach to processing potentially removable veterans but also in how the government facilitated the naturalization of noncitizen servicemembers and veterans.

I was further dismayed by the additional findings that the number of these veterans was not being tracked; deportation often prevented these individuals from accessing their VA benefits and services or attending hearings to appeal VA decisions; and ICE did not consistently adhere to its own policies on removal proceedings involving veterans.

The GAO report made it abundantly clear that reforms are desperately needed across the Federal Government, and that is precisely what my bill endeavors to do today.

Despite being born in a different country, these veterans served in the United States for the promise of a better future. They put their lives on the line to promote our ideals and values because they believe in the American experience.

Often, these individuals, like many veterans, leave service with traumas or

ailments that impact their physical and mental health. This can lead to drug addiction, self-harm, or PTSD, which also can serve as a precursor to violence or criminal activity.

We must recognize these struggles that our veterans face and show greater compassion toward those who may have made a mistake, including those noncitizen veterans who are facing deportation due to their actions.

I say to you, Mr. Speaker, if there is anyone who deserves a second chance in our country, it is people who have worn the uniform of the United States of America.

The Veteran Service Recognition Act creates a pathway for us to recognize their service and prevent the undue deportation of servicemembers and veterans. The bill achieves this by making the naturalization process easier for Active-Duty servicemembers at basic training and establishing a military family immigration advisory committee to review the record of an individual being considered for deportation. This is not an automatic thing. This is about weighing the servicemember's record as part of those proceedings.

What American would deny that we should treat noncitizen veterans with fairness and compassion? We want veterans to be able to apply for green cards to return home, excluding the most egregious cases, and codify an administrative program for immediate family members of veterans to also obtain green cards consistent with existing administrative policy.

The number of eligible individuals under this legislation remains a very small subset of the veteran population. In fact, estimates are in the couple of hundreds.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, for my friends across the aisle, this is an opportunity to honor our brave veterans for their heroism, regardless of the country they were born in.

We commemorated Veterans Day last month, and I can think of no better way to honor our veterans than voting "yes" on the underlying legislation. We can and must do better by our immigrant veterans.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST).

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from California for yielding the time for me to speak today.

I rise in opposition to this legislation. This bill is unnecessary and creates additional carve-outs to an already broken immigration system.

Right now, DHS can't even do their job of securing the southern border and enforcing current immigration law. Just last month, we saw the highest number of got-aways ever at the southern border. That is 73,000 individuals that evaded Border Patrol.

DHS agents and staff are overwhelmed and overworked. We should not be adding more to their plate when they already struggle to secure the border.

Now, as a veteran, I greatly appreciate those who are willing to raise their right hand and swear to protect our Nation and our Constitution, and I served with many of them.

Even though an individual is a veteran, that shouldn't excuse or create an excuse for poor judgment or criminal activity, and I fear that this bill may encourage just that.

We already have a pathway for individuals who are serving our country in uniform to stay here in the U.S. and become citizens. Instead of this bill that we are debating today, we should improve the information provided to our servicemembers during the Transition Assistance Program on how to upgrade their immigration status. Making improvements to the TAP has been and will continue to be a top priority of mine.

During that time, we could explain to them, once again, how important it is to follow the laws and the Constitution, which they fought to uphold.

Next Congress, I plan to be working on the TAP to ensure a smooth transition to civilian life for all of our servicemembers, but on this bill, I urge a "no" vote.

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER), the chairman of the House Judiciary Committee.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 7946, the Veteran Service Recognition Act.

This modest but important legislation would ensure that noncitizen Active-Duty military, veterans, and their families are treated with the dignity and respect befitting the sacrifice they have given to this country.

While military service can offer an expedited pathway to naturalization, many noncitizen servicemembers leave the military without becoming a U.S. citizen because of unnecessarily burdensome requirements that they must meet.

Further, many servicemembers have family members who lack lawful status in the United States with no ability to adjust their status. As a result, while our military personnel are deployed protecting U.S. global interests and keeping our Nation safe, they must worry if their loved ones will be apprehended in an immigration raid and potentially be deported.

This legislation would address this concern and would protect our servicemembers, just as they protect us.

It would, one, establish an advisory committee to review and provide recommendations on the cases of noncitizen veterans, Active servicemembers, and their families who are placed in removal proceedings.

Two, it would direct the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Defense to implement the pro-

gram that allows noncitizen servicemembers to file for naturalization during basic training or as early as otherwise possible.

Three, it would provide an opportunity for noncitizen veterans who have been removed or ordered removed, and who have not been convicted of serious crimes, to be considered for lawful permanent resident status.

Four, it would allow certain immediate relatives of U.S. citizen servicemembers or veterans in the United States to adjust their status and to obtain a green card as long as they are otherwise admissible.

Despite the rhetoric that we have already heard from our Republican colleagues throughout this debate, I want to make it clear that H.R. 7946 has nothing to do with the border. This legislation is about recognizing and honoring the sacrifice of our servicemembers by supporting them and their families and by giving them the opportunity to become U.S. citizens if they so desire.

I thank Chairman TAKANO of the Veterans' Affairs Committee, as well as Chair ZOE LOFGREN of the Subcommittee on Immigration and Citizenship, for their commitment and leadership on this issue. I was honored to join them in introducing the legislation before us today.

Immigrants have served in our Armed Forces since the founding of our Nation. In return for their service and sacrifice, we promised them, and they have earned, the opportunity to become American citizens.

I hope all of my colleagues will demonstrate their commitment to our servicemembers and our veterans by supporting this important legislation.

□ 1330

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman is correct that the legislation emanating from the Judiciary Committee doesn't have anything to do with the border because the Democrats, having created this monumental crisis, refused to do anything to address it.

Instead, we are left with bills like this that set distractions on the most important question facing America today.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA).

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I don't just rise in opposition to this bill, and I don't want to appear angry, but as a veteran who served both as an enlisted man and as an officer from 1970 until nearly 1990, I know what it is like to get an honorable discharge—not once but twice.

As an officer, I oversaw courts-martial. I know what it takes to get a bad conduct discharge. Shame on those who would write a bill and then refuse to allow a change that would at least prohibit those who are being discharged with bad conduct discharges.

Let's understand. Other than honorable is a nice term. Dishonorable is a

clear term. If you murder your commanding officer, you get a dishonorable discharge. If you just try to, you will probably get a bad conduct discharge. If you are caught dealing vast amounts of drugs or you are an MS-13 person who lied to get into the military and you have gone AWOL, you might even get a general, but you certainly are going to get nothing worse than a bad conduct discharge.

The fact that this bill allows people with a bad conduct discharge, people who have been convicted of clear felonies, to gain and retain citizenship in the United States is reprehensible.

Let's understand something else. In times of peace, after 6 months of honorable service, you can apply and get your green card and get your citizenship. We have people who have served less than 2 years who get sworn in as U.S. citizens. So we are not even talking about people who wanted to be citizens and at the first opportunity chose to do that.

We are talking about people who didn't, who, now that they have been sent out of the United States—many of them, by the way, after their service for other crimes they committed—they now want to be able to come back here and be vindicated as though they did something right.

Military service is, in fact, an honorable event. And those who serve honorably, we want to make sure are paid with all of the thank yous, including citizenship for themselves and their family. This bill doesn't do it.

For all of us who are veterans, shame on those who would confuse honorable service, when, in fact, this bill allows those who have committed a felony, bad-conduct-discharged individuals, to retain their U.S. opportunity, one which has never been the case and shouldn't be the case. If you commit the crimes, you should not be an American—you didn't serve honorably.

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I would just note, once again, that those with dishonorable discharges are not eligible under the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. JAYAPAL), a member of the Immigration and Citizenship Subcommittee.

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the Veteran Service Recognition Act to stop the deportation of immigrant veterans.

I thank my colleague, Representative MARK TAKANO, for bringing this important bill forward and our Immigration and Citizenship Subcommittee chair, ZOE LOFGREN, for her tremendous leadership on this issue.

Mr. Speaker, immigrants have defended the United States in every major conflict since the Revolutionary War. One of the first casualties in the Iraq war was Lance Corporal Jose Antonio Gutierrez, who was not an American citizen when he died fighting for us. He signed up for the Marines, wanting to give back to the country that gave him everything.

Today, there are 45,000 immigrants serving in the United States armed services. Yet, hundreds of immigrant veterans are estimated to have been deported.

Mr. Speaker, this is unacceptable. Immigration and Customs Enforcement is supposed to consider veteran service to the country when making removal decisions.

A 2019 GAO study found that ICE attorneys "... did not consistently follow its policies involving veterans who were placed in removal proceedings ... in part because ICE officials were "... unaware of the policies. ..."

Mr. Speaker, we can't leave this to chance. Even one deported veteran is one too many. Yet, hundreds of immigrant veterans are estimated to have been deported.

When people sign up to defend this country, we should be helping them to become U.S. citizens as quickly as possible, and that is exactly what this bill does.

Mr. Speaker, that is why I am so proud to support the Veteran Service Recognition Act to take crucial steps to stop the deportation of veterans and provide relief to veterans who have already been deported. No one who has put their life on the line for the United States should be deported. It is that simple, Mr. Speaker.

Vote "yes" to support veterans.

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. JORDAN), the ranking member of the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, just a few minutes ago the chairman of the Judiciary Committee said—the Democrat chair said—this bill is not about the border. That is the problem. That is what we should be addressing.

There have been 4 million illegal migrant encounters since Joe Biden has been in office; 1.4 million illegal migrants released into the country; 1 million got-aways; and an administration that says the border is secure. It is laughable. I don't know how they can say that with a straight face.

Remember this, too. Remember those border agents on horseback? Remember those guys doing their job on horseback? This administration allowed a lie to fester and grow for months knowing that those guys did nothing wrong.

Yeah, this bill is not about the border. It should be. When are the Democrats going to take this issue seriously?

We have literally gone from a secure border to no border. When are they going to take it seriously?

No, no, they are never going to take it seriously.

Obviously, over the last 22 months they haven't done anything to address it, which leads us to—I think the logical conclusion that any American and every American is making is—they are doing this intentionally.

Why? I do not know.

It has to be intent. It has to be intentional. It has to be deliberate. It has to

be premeditated because you can't have this kind of chaos just happen—and now they bring this bill.

The bill says veterans who have committed crimes that make them deportable aren't going to be deported. It makes no sense to me.

I hope at some point the Democratic Party will wake up. I hope at some point the Biden administration will do what everyone knows needs to be done and get our border secure again.

Maybe it would help—maybe it would be a good first step—maybe a good start would be for the President of the United States, who is charged with securing our homeland, securing our border, maybe it would be a good first step if he went to the border.

I know the leader of our party has asked him to go. Leader MCCARTHY has asked him to go.

Why don't they go together and help unify the country maybe?

Stand up for something that makes sense that we would actually have a border. Maybe that would be a first step, instead of bringing bills like this and not addressing the fundamental problem.

A bill that is not about the border—you can say that again because this one sure isn't. This one is not going to address the problem that every American knows is as real as it gets.

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA), who has served on the Immigration and Citizenship Subcommittee. He served in this Congress. He is the author of one of the bills that was included in this bill and has visited with deported veterans across the border.

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, this is the oath a soldier takes when he is joining the military:

I do swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I will obey the orders of the President of the United States and the orders of the officers appointed over me.

Mr. Speaker, follow me here. A soldier takes this oath without any reservation, mental or otherwise. He fights for our country, for our Nation, he or she is honorably discharged, and is not a citizen.

Corporal Jose Angel Garibay lived in my district. Jose Angel was the first servicemember in Orange County to make the ultimate sacrifice for this country in Iraq after 9/11. He took the oath. Yet, he died as a noncitizen. He deserved to die as an American citizen.

And many, many other honorably discharged veterans, are deported, but they can come back once they die because they still have the right to be buried in a national cemetery.

Let's pay our debt to our veterans. We ask them to fight, to serve our country, to defend our freedom, and our moral obligation is to take care of all our veterans. Let's pay our debt to

our veterans. Let's pass the Veteran Service Recognition Act.

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CASTRO), who has played such a useful role in the crafting of these measures.

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Veteran Service Recognition Act because it is time to bring our deported veterans home.

Five years ago, I led a delegation of lawmakers to meet with a group of deported veterans at a support house in Tijuana, Mexico.

Most of those folks joined the military after 9/11, putting their lives on the line to defend American freedom and the freedom of our allies thousands of miles away.

When they enlisted, our Nation gladly accepted their service—and if they would have perished on the battlefield, they would have been buried as American heroes right here in the United States. When they came back home and struggled, they were kicked out of the Nation they would have died to protect.

Mr. Speaker, I represent San Antonio, Texas, known as Military City USA. From how I see it, deporting our veterans is one of the worst acts of betrayal that our Federal Government can commit.

The Veteran Service Recognition Act will right the wrong by providing an opportunity for deported veterans to apply for permanent residency, and it will help current and future servicemembers apply for naturalization for themselves and their families.

This bill is about doing the right thing for those who served. It is time to bring our deported veterans back home.

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE), who is a proud member of the Immigration and Citizenship Subcommittee and a long-serving member of the House Judiciary Committee.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the sponsor and proponents of this legislation. It is so startling, stunning, shocking, absurd to even be standing here discussing the deportation of men and women who have worn the uniform and have offered to sacrifice their lives for the oldest democracy in the world.

Mr. Speaker, it is clearly an effort that is long overdue, and I am stunned by my friends on the other side of the aisle—I have said that word, stunned and shocked, that there would be any opposition to this. We know that immigrants have served in the United States Armed Forces in every major conflict, and there are now 45,000 immigrants serving in the armed forces in this country.

It is important that we fix the gap, the loophole, the calls that are gotten

when immigrants are deported. This legislation, I am very grateful to say, is about fixing this problem.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to support H.R. 7946, that would require or would have DHS create and enforce a system for identifying noncitizen veterans and require their status as a veteran to be brought into consideration in the case of removal proceedings. Their service record will also be brought into it. Any of us can believe it, they could be heroic, and that doesn't even count in today's scheme.

It would also require DHS to provide the opportunity for eligible noncitizen veterans to be granted lawful permanent residence. Identification of their veteran status would halt any removal proceedings, and there would be a final administrative decision on the veterans' eligibility.

□ 1345

What I like also about it is that when you come into basic training, we can then naturalize these individuals, these servants who have offered themselves for training and to be part of this government by fighting, by wearing the uniform, by fighting for democracy to become citizens.

The Veteran Service Recognition Act is offered in response to DHS' and the U.S. Immigration and Custom Enforcement's failure to consistently follow its own policies regarding deportation of those.

That means that we say on the floor of the House with great embarrassment that we have deported men and women who have served in uniform; and, yes, we have had challenges with the same kind of—how should I say it—detoured roads that our own veterans have had to fall to, substance abuse, or other incidences; but they have still worn the uniform.

Our veterans can get into the Veterans Court or get into services; but the other veterans, who have the same defaults, if you will, because of the conditions of war, have to be deported. That doesn't make sense.

More than 760,000 noncitizens have enlisted over the past century, with peaks in world wars and 9/11. There are approximately 45,000 immigrants, as I said, in active service.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentlewoman.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I want to make sure that my county knows that there are 179,000 veterans who live in Harris County, and 1,567,000 veterans who live in Texas. Some of those are our immigrant veterans, and some are not citizens.

So my point is, here today, that we must find every available way to treat them as they treated this Nation: I am willing to die for America and America's values.

Mr. Speaker, I must raise this. Lanquishing in a Russian prison is a vet-

eran, Paul Whelan, with bogus charges, a hostage. Alongside of him is Brittney Griner, and it has been determined that the conditions she is living in are just atrocious.

My point is, that any time an American needs America to fix the problem, as a democratic nation, we must stand with those who have stood with us; those who are citizens and those who are immigrants who fought for us.

I ask my friends and colleagues to support H.R. 7946.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 7946, the Veteran Service Recognition Act of 2022 that would address immigration-related issues pertaining to noncitizen military veterans.

By enacting H.R. 7946, the Department of Homeland Security would be required to create and enforce a system for identifying noncitizen veterans and require their status as a veteran to be brought into consideration in the case of removal proceedings.

H.R. 7946 will also require the DHS to provide the opportunity for eligible noncitizen veterans to be granted lawful permanent resident status.

Identification of their veteran status would halt any removal proceedings until there is a final administrative decision on the veteran's eligibility.

The Veteran Service Recognition Act is offered in response to the DHS's and the U.S. Immigration and Custom Enforcement's failure to consistently follow its own policies regarding deportation of those who served in our armed forces.

Immigration and Customs Enforcement already has policies that provides special consideration to veterans in light of their service, but has recklessly failed to follow them.

The Government Accountability Office reported that between 2013 and 2018, ICE did not consistently follow its own policies or maintain electronic data on the number of veterans placed in removal proceedings.

Investigators also found that a staggering 70 percent of cases involving the deportation of noncitizen veterans did not receive a review as required.

This means that veterans were not granted their right to due process. As a result, we do not even have an accurate measure of the number of veterans who have been unjustly deported.

As a nation, we should be ashamed and alarmed by this lack of information which reflects a lack of concern for treating them fairly.

More than 760,000 noncitizens have enlisted over the past century, with peaks during the World Wars and 9/11 attacks. Today, there are approximately 45,000 immigrants in active service.

This issue is important to me because many of our nation's veterans who are not US citizens are among the 29,000 veterans who live in my district, the 179,000 who live in Harris County, and the 1,567,000 who live in Texas, the second most of any state.

The promise of naturalization is sometimes a military recruitment strategy that targets immigrant communities. Military service is supposed to qualify veterans for naturalization as U.S. citizens because honorable service satisfies the "good moral character" requirements, according to the 1940 Nationality Act.

But then, in 2017, a Trump administration policy restricted access to the expedited citizenship that was promised to veterans after 9/11.

This policy exacerbated the persistent problem of immigrant veterans not being given the proper guidance on how to complete the naturalization process.

In turn, this systemic failure leads to more than half of the eligible noncitizen veterans not completing their naturalization process, leaving them in a permanent limbo.

When we needed them the most, hundreds of thousands of noncitizens stepped up to fight for our wars.

And now when they needed us, our nation failed to even recognize them, let alone protect them.

"Leave no one behind" is a common mantra followed by the United States Armed Forces. We must abide by that principle in support of our noncitizen veterans who served our country honorably, and make sure that they, too, are never left behind again.

We must do more to help our foreign-born veterans navigate the naturalization process. It is up to Congress to act.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the Veteran's Recognition Act.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, we can now plainly see the effect of the Democrats' open border policies on communities across our Nation; the strain on our schools, our hospitals, our public safety, working class wages and opportunities, and social services.

No civilization has ever survived the magnitude of illegal mass migration that the Democrats have unleashed upon our country in the span of just 23 months; and Gallup warns us there are another 42 million people living in poverty just in Latin America and the Caribbean who intend to come here now that they can.

When Secretary Mayorkas appeared before the House Judiciary Committee, he couldn't tell us how it benefits the American people to have their classrooms packed with non-English-speaking students, their emergency rooms flooded with illegals demanding basic care, how their families will be safer with increased gang activity and fentanyl inundating communities, or how working families will be made better off by flooding the labor market with cheap illegal labor, or how taxpayers are served by footing the bill for supporting a largely unskilled, uneducated, and dependent population.

Now, where is this bill taking us? Well, we already know because we have already had a taste of it. For a while, we allowed aliens on temporary visas and even illegal immigrants here under DACA to enlist so that they could claim a fast track to citizenship. It was called the MAVNI program.

One MAVNI enlistment, Ji Chaoqun, was found to be a Chinese spy. A number of foreign nationals who enlisted in our military were subsequently deported for committing crimes. That program was such a debacle that the Obama administration, the architects of DACA, had to suspend it in 2016 because of the danger it posed to national security.

Now, foreign nationals who come to America legally, who obey our laws

and seek to serve our country because of a love of it and of the principles upon which it is founded, are one of our greatest strengths.

Eleven years ago, I spoke at the funeral of Corporal Gurpreet Singh, whose family had emigrated from India legally 11 years before.

Let me tell you a little bit about Gurpreet Singh. His father described him this way. He said Gurpreet "was always a very patriotic man for the U.S. From the time he was a little boy, he knew he wanted to serve in the U.S. military. Gurpreet was very proud of his service with the Marines."

Corporal Singh was wounded in combat, chose to return, overstayed his assignment in order to relieve a friend, and was killed in action in Helmond Province, June 22, 2011.

Yet, the Democrats are either unable or unwilling to tell the difference between a Chinese spy like Ji Chaoqun and an American hero like Gurpreet Singh. It appears the Democrats are attempting to equate the heroism, devotion, and fidelity of heroes like Gurpreet Singh with the convicted criminals that a court has ordered to be deported from our country, or the lawless, illegal mass migration the Democrats are not only ignoring, but actively aiding and abetting with their policies.

Now, even if every convicted criminal the Democrats are trying to benefit with this bill were meritorious, wrongly convicted of crimes and exemplary in every way, we are still talking about an infinitesimal fraction of those who are being allowed into our country every day by the dangerous policies of this administration. That includes 120 known terrorists we have intercepted, and God only knows how many more among the 1 million got-aways who have entered our country on Joe Biden's watch.

The Immigration and Citizenship Subcommittee of the Judiciary Committee has done nothing to address this crisis; the Judiciary Committee has done nothing to address this crisis; and the House has done nothing to address this crisis, a crisis that literally began on Inauguration Day when Biden reversed the policies of the Trump administration that had finally secured our borders.

I can assure the American people that 28 days from today, all of that is going to change.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

This bill is an important step forward to making sure that those who served our country in the military are given every consideration. We know from the reports we receive from our vets how tough it can be.

I think it is important to note that Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America are supporting this bill. They know better than I do the kind of trauma that can be experienced in these

theaters and have been experienced by our brave men and women in the military. They also know that sometimes those traumatic experiences can lead to a path that is destructive for the veteran, a veteran who is suffering from PTSD.

Now, if a military member, a vet, was born in California and they use drugs because of PTSD, they might spend some time in jail, but then they would have paid their debt to society.

If, instead, their fellow soldier was a legal permanent resident of the United States, born in another country, but volunteered to fight for our country, after they pay their debt to society for the exact same circumstances, then they are booted out of the country.

That is why The American Legion is saying they support this bill, because we owe some kind of honor and stature to those who step forward to volunteer to fight for our country. That is what we owe them.

I will just close with this. I am going to represent a town called Salinas, California. I was there last month, and they have put up on every light pole on the downtown street pictures of people from Salinas who served in the military. It is so inspiring.

They had a little ceremony to unveil these photographs of the Salinas heroes. After that, one of the veterans organizers said to me, the worst experience of his life was driving his sergeant to the border to be kicked out of the country he fought for. It is not right.

This bill will change that, and I hope that we will all vote in favor.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

AMENDMENT NO. 1 OFFERED BY MR. VICENTE GONZALEZ OF TEXAS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 1 printed in part C of House Report 117-590.

Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I have an amendment at the desk made in order by the rule.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Add at the end of the bill the following:

SEC. 10. REGULATIONS.

Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland shall promulgate regulations to implement this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 1508, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my amendment to H.R. 7946, the Veteran Service Recognition Act, which requires the Secretary of Homeland Security to propose regulations to implement this bill no later than 90 days after the date of enactment.

Our deported veterans have waited long enough. These men and women are

heroes; and how did we thank them for their service after they fought for our country around the world? We deported them. That is despicable and goes against every principle this country stands for.

At the very least, we owe them an opportunity to naturalize, to live in the country they fought for, to raise a family and to live and pursue their American Dream, the dream they have earned, the dream they have fought for.

I came to Congress 6 years ago and introduced the Repatriate Our Patriots Act because I was in shock that the United States was deporting American veterans. This gave them a pathway to citizenship.

Today, I am proud to see Chairman TAKANO's bill on the floor. Together, we have been fighting this cause to ensure future servicemembers have the resources to naturalize and become American citizens.

I can't think of anything more shameful than to deport an American veteran, someone who has worn our uniform and fought for our freedom.

Most of the issues that have occurred when they come home are due to PTSD and scars that they bring back from the battlefield. I have spoken time and again to my constituents in South Texas, to veterans across my border, and to people across this country, and the consensus is clear: Congress must fix this and bring every last veteran home.

This Congress has taken more action than any before by signing the Honoring our PACT Act to clear the way for veterans to get the healthcare they deserve after incurring illnesses in the line of duty. But we can't stop there.

While there is no way to adequately apologize to veterans who have been deported after bravely serving this country, this is a step in the right direction.

For decades, many veterans have not been with their families; have not celebrated anniversaries and holidays. They couldn't be with loved ones for important moments like graduations and birthdays. This is our chance to act, and our chance to show we can grow and correct the wrongs and create a nation that really is for all.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support my amendment and to ensure the Department of Homeland Security acts swiftly and comprehensively to propose regulations and implement this critical bill.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to vote in favor of the underlying bill, the Veteran Service Recognition Act, to ensure these servicemembers can come home, and that we will never, ever deport a single veteran again.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I claim time in opposition to the amendment.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. YARMUTH). The gentleman from California is recognized.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I would remind my friend that every alien who serves in our military has the right to naturalize; but that does not give them a right to commit crimes against our country, and that is what this bill does.

This amendment sets 90 days as the deadline for promulgating regulations to implement this bill, a bill that overrides the laws governing deportation of aliens who commit crimes in our country if they have enlisted in the Armed Forces. It raises some disturbing questions.

Why is it that the bill surrenders legislative prerogatives to the executive? If you are going to write the law, then write it in its entirety in the open.

□ 1400

Yes, we have been granting these powers to the executive branch for a very long time. The point is that 10 times more laws are written by the bureaucracies than by the body solely vested with lawmaking authority, but we will save that discussion for another day.

Ninety days is an absurdly short period of time to write the regulations, publish the regulations, allow for full public input for the regulations, rewrite the regulations in light of public comments, and publish the final version. It begs the question: Why?

Is it possible that the supporters of this law know exactly what they want to do and have no interest in listening to the public? That has been the history of the left's approach to defending the public safety and the Nation's sovereignty, so it would not much surprise me if this is the case.

Mr. Speaker, I would simply say that it is clear that the supporters of the amendment are simply trying to rush a bad bill into implementation without the public having any opportunity to see the ramifications of this bill's provisions.

As I said earlier, we tried to get into the bill a provision that would allow the victims of these criminal aliens to testify as to the impact of the crimes on their lives, and the Democrats rejected it.

Notice and comment periods themselves require 30 to 60 days after the notice of proposed rulemaking is published for the public to submit comments about the proposed rule. After that, the agency has to comb through and respond to all of the submitted comments. There is simply no way to comply with Executive Order 12866's economic analysis requirement for a significant rule, and that is certainly what this is, within a 90-day period of enactment.

It is apparent that the Democrats are trying to rush out an interim final rule on this bill before the American public has any opportunity to see what they are doing. We can only conclude that

the Democrats know that the American people are not going to like what they see.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a "no" vote on the amendment and a "no" vote on the underlying bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support my amendment and the underlying bill and assure justice is served to all who have served our country.

Mr. Speaker, a vote against this bill and against this amendment would be on the wrong side of history.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the previous question is ordered on the bill and on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ).

The question is on the amendment by the gentleman from Texas.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, this 15-minute vote on the amendment will be followed by 5-minute votes on:

Passage of the bill, if ordered;

An en bloc motion to suspend the rules, if offered; and

Motions to suspend the rules and:

Pass S. 4052;

Concur in the Senate amendment to H.R. 3462;

Pass S. 3875;

Pass S. 3499;

Pass S. 2796;

Pass S. 4834; and

Concur in the Senate amendment to H.R. 5796.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 213, nays 207, not voting 11, as follows:

[Roll No. 502]

YEAS—213

Adams	Castro (TX)	Escobar
Aguilar	Cherfilus-	Eshoo
Allred	McCormick	Espaillet
Auchincloss	Chu	Evans
Axne	Cicilline	Fletcher
Barragán	Clark (MA)	Foster
Bass	Clarke (NY)	Frankel, Lois
Beatty	Cleaver	Gallego
Bera	Clyburn	Garamendi
Beyer	Cohen	Garcia (IL)
Bishop (GA)	Connolly	Garcia (TX)
Blumenauer	Cooper	Golden
Blunt Rochester	Correa	Gomez
Bonamici	Costa	Gonzalez,
Bourdeaux	Courtney	Vicente
Bowman	Craig	Gottheimer
Boyle, Brendan	Crow	Green, Al (TX)
F.	Cuellar	Grijalva
Brown (MD)	Davids (KS)	Harder (CA)
Brown (OH)	Davis, Danny K.	Hayes
Bush	Dean	Higgins (NY)
Bustos	DeFazio	Himes
Butterfield	DeGette	Horsford
Carbajal	DeLauro	Houlahan
Cárdenas	DelBene	Hoyer
Carson	Demings	Huffman
Carter (LA)	Dingell	Jackson Lee
Cartwright	Doggett	Jacobs (CA)
Case	Doyle, Michael	Jayapal
Casten	F.	Jeffries

Johnson (GA) Mfume
 Johnson (TX) Moore (WI)
 Jones Morelle
 Kahele Moulton
 Kaptur Mrvan
 Keating Murphy (FL)
 Kelly (IL) Nadler
 Khanna Napolitano
 Kildee Neal
 Kilmer Neguse
 Kim (NJ) Newman
 Kind Norcross
 Kirkpatrick O'Halleran
 Krishnamoorthi Ocasio-Cortez
 Kuster Omar
 Lamb Pallone
 Langevin Panetta
 Larsen (WA) Pappas
 Larson (CT) Pascrell
 Lawrence Payne
 Lawson (FL) Peltola
 Lee (CA) Perlmutter
 Lee (NV) Peters
 Leger Fernandez Pingree
 Levin (CA) Pocan
 Levin (MI) Porter
 Lieu Pressley
 Lofgren Price (NC)
 Lowenthal Quigley
 Luria Raskin
 Lynch Rice (NY)
 Malinowski Ross
 Maloney Roybal-Allard
 Carolyn B. Ruiz
 Maloney, Sean Ruppersberger
 Manning Rush
 Matsui Ryan (NY)
 McBath Ryan (OH)
 McCollum Sánchez
 McGovern Sarbanes
 McNerney Scanlon
 Meeks Schakowsky
 Meng Schiff

NAYS—207

Aderholt Ferguson
 Allen Finstad
 Amodei Fischbach
 Armstrong Fitzgerald
 Arrington Fitzpatrick
 Babin Fleischmann
 Bacon Flood
 Balderson Flores
 Banks Foxx
 Barr Franklin, C.
 Bentz Scott
 Bergman Fulcher
 Bice (OK) Gaetz
 Biggs Gallagher
 Bilirakis Garbarino
 Bishop (NC) Garcia (CA)
 Boebert Gibbs
 Bost Gimenez
 Brady Gohmert
 Brooks Gonzales, Tony
 Buchanan Gonzalez (OH)
 Buck Good (VA)
 Bucshon Gooden (TX)
 Budd Gosar
 Burchett Granger
 Burgess Graves (LA)
 Calvert Graves (MO)
 Cammack Green (TN)
 Carey Greene (GA)
 Carl Griffith
 Carter (GA) Grothman
 Carter (TX) Guest
 Chabot Guthrie
 Cheney Harris
 Cline Harshbarger
 Cloud Hartzler
 Clyde Hern
 Cole Herrell
 Comer Herrera Beutler
 Conway Hice (GA)
 Crawford Higgins (LA)
 Crenshaw Hill
 Curtis Hinson
 Davidson Hollingsworth
 Davis, Rodney Hudson
 DesJarlais Huizenga
 Diaz-Balart Issa
 Donalds Jackson
 Dunn Jacobs (NY)
 Ellzey Johnson (LA)
 Emmer Johnson (OH)
 Estes Johnson (SD)
 Fallon Jordan
 Feenstra Joyce (OH)

Schneider
 Schrader
 Schrier
 Scott (VA)
 Scott, David
 Sewell
 Sherman
 Sherrill
 Sires
 Slotkin
 Smith (WA)
 Soto
 Spanberger
 Speier
 Stansbury
 Stanton
 Stevens
 Strickland
 Suozzi
 Swalwell
 Thompson (CA)
 Thompson (MS)
 Titus
 Tlaib
 Tonko
 Torres (CA)
 Torres (NY)
 Trahan
 Trone
 Underwood
 Vargas
 Veasey
 Velázquez
 Wasserman
 Schultz
 Waters
 Watson Coleman
 Welch
 Wexton
 Wild
 Williams (GA)
 Wilson (FL)
 Yarmuth

Rogers (AL)
 Rogers (KY)
 Rose
 Rosendale
 Rouzer
 Roy
 Salazar
 Scalise
 Schweikert
 Scott, Austin
 Sempolinski
 Sessions
 Simpson
 Smith (MO)
 Smith (NE)
 Smith (NJ)

Baird
 Brownley
 Castor (FL)
 Cawthorn

Smucker
 Spartz
 Stauber
 Steel
 Stefanik
 Steil
 Steube
 Stewart
 Taylor
 Tenney
 Thompson (PA)
 Tiffany
 Timmons
 Turner
 Upton
 Valadao

NOT VOTING—11

DeSaulnier
 Duncan
 Kinzinger
 Phillips
 Rutherford
 Takano
 Van Drew

□ 1452

Messrs. BOST and STEWART changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ changed her vote from “nay” to “yea.” So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I was unable to vote today as I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on rollcall No. 502.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Bass (Cicilline)	Grijalva (Neguse)	Pressley
Beatty (Neguse)	Herrera Beutler	(Neguse)
Brooks	(Moore (UT))	Rice (NY)
(Fleischmann)	Johnson (TX)	(Morelle)
Cole (Lucas)	(Pallone)	Roybal-Allard
Cuellar (Correa)	Kildee (Pappas)	(Correa)
DeFazio	Kirkpatrick	Ruppersberger
(Pallone)	(Pallone)	(Sarbanes)
Demings (Blunt)	Lieu (Beyer)	Ryan (OH)
Rochester)	Lowenthal	(Correa)
Doyle, Michael	(Beyer)	Simpson
F. (Pallone)	Moore (WI)	(Fulcher)
Dunn (Cammack)	(Beyer)	Sires (Pallone)
Frankel, Lois	Newman (Correa)	Stanton
(Meng)	O'Halleran	(Huffman)
Galleo	(Pappas)	Steube
(Cicilline)	Palazzo	(Franklin, C. Scott)
Gosar (Weber	(Fleischmann)	Titus (Pallone)
(TX))	Pascrell	Welch (Pallone)
Gottheimer	(Pallone)	
(Pappas)		

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the bill.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 220, nays 208, not voting 3, as follows:

[Roll No. 503]

YEAS—220

Adams	Bera	Boyle, Brendan
Aguilar	Beyer	F.
Allred	Bishop (GA)	Brown (MD)
Auchincloss	Blumenauer	Brown (OH)
Axne	Blunt Rochester	Brownley
Barragán	Bonamici	Bush
Bass	Bourdeaux	Bustos
Beatty	Bowman	Butterfield

Carbajal
 Carson
 Carter (LA)
 Cartwright
 Case
 Casten
 Castor (FL)
 Castro (TX)
 Cherfilus-
 McCormick
 Chu
 Cicilline
 Clark (MA)
 Clarke (NY)
 Cleaver
 Clyburn
 Cohen
 Connolly
 Cooper
 Correa
 Costa
 Courtney
 Craig
 Crow
 Cuellar
 Davids (KS)
 Davis, Danny K.

Dean
 DeFazio
 DeGette
 DeLauro
 DelBene
 Demings
 DeSaulnier
 Dingell
 Doggett
 Doyle, Michael
 F.
 Escobar
 Eshoo
 Espallat
 Evans
 Fitzpatrick
 Fletcher
 Foster
 Frankel, Lois
 Gallego
 Garamendi
 Garcia (IL)
 Garcia (TX)
 Golden
 Gomez
 Gonzalez,
 Vicente
 Gottheimer
 Green, Al (TX)
 Grijalva
 Harder (CA)
 Hayes
 Higgins (NY)
 Himes
 Horsford
 Houlahan
 Hoyer
 Huffman
 Jackson Lee
 Jacobs (CA)
 Jayapal

Jeffries
 Johnson (GA)
 Johnson (TX)
 Jones
 Kahele
 Kaptur
 Keating
 Kelly (IL)
 Khanna
 Kildee
 Kilmer
 Kim (NJ)
 Kind
 Kinzinger
 Kirkpatrick
 Krishnamoorthi
 Kuster
 Lamb
 Langevin
 Larsen (WA)
 Larson (CT)
 Lawrence
 Lawson (FL)
 Lee (CA)
 Lee (NV)
 Leger Fernandez
 Levin (CA)
 Levin (MI)
 Lieu
 Lofgren
 Lowenthal
 Luria
 Lynch
 Malinowski
 Maloney,
 Carolyn B.
 Maloney, Sean
 Manning
 Matsui
 McBath
 McCollum
 McGovern
 McNerney
 Meeks
 Meng
 Mfume
 Moore (WI)
 Morelle
 Moulton
 Mrvan
 Murphy (FL)
 Nadler
 Napolitano
 Neal
 Neguse
 Newman
 Norcross
 O'Halleran
 Ocasio-Cortez
 Omar
 Pallone
 Panetta
 Pappas
 Pascrell
 Payne
 Peltola
 Perlmutter
 Peters

Phillips
 Pingree
 Pocan
 Porter
 Pressley
 Price (NC)
 Quigley
 Raskin
 Rice (NY)
 Ross
 Roybal-Allard
 Ruiz
 Ruppersberger
 Rush
 Ryan (NY)
 Ryan (OH)
 Salazar
 Sánchez
 Sarbanes
 Scanlon
 Schakowsky
 Schiff
 Schneider
 Schrader
 Schrier
 Scott (VA)
 Scott, David
 Sewell
 Sherman
 Sherrill
 Sires
 Slotkin
 Smith (WA)
 Soto
 Spanberger
 Speier
 Stansbury
 Stanton
 Stevens
 Strickland
 Suozzi
 Swalwell
 Takano
 Thompson (CA)
 Thompson (MS)
 Titus
 Tlaib
 Tonko
 Torres (CA)
 Torres (NY)
 Trahan
 Trone
 Underwood
 Vargas
 Veasey
 Velázquez
 Wasserman
 Schultz
 Waters
 Watson Coleman
 Welch
 Wexton
 Wild
 Williams (GA)
 Wilson (FL)
 Yarmuth

NAYS—208

Aderholt	Carey	Finstad
Allen	Carl	Fischbach
Amodei	Carter (GA)	Fitzgerald
Armstrong	Carter (TX)	Fleischmann
Arrington	Cawthorn	Flood
Babin	Chabot	Flores
Bacon	Cheney	Foxx
Baird	Cline	Franklin, C.
Balderson	Cloud	Scott
Banks	Clyde	Fulcher
Barr	Cole	Gaetz
Bentz	Comer	Gallagher
Bergman	Conway	Garbarino
Bice (OK)	Crawford	Garcia (CA)
Biggs	Crenshaw	Gibbs
Bilirakis	Curtis	Gimenez
Bishop (NC)	Davidson	Gohmert
Boebert	Davis, Rodney	Gonzales, Tony
Bost	DesJarlais	Good (VA)
Brady	Diaz-Balart	Gooden (TX)
Brooks	Donalds	Gosar
Buchanan	Duncan	Granger
Buck	Dunn	Graves (LA)
Bucshon	Ellzey	Graves (MO)
Budd	Emmer	Green (TN)
Burchett	Estes	Greene (GA)
Burgess	Fallon	Griffith
Calvert	Feenstra	Grothman
Cammack	Ferguson	Guest

Guthrie	Malliotakis	Scalise
Harris	Mann	Schweikert
Harshbarger	Massie	Scott, Austin
Hartzler	Mast	Sempolinski
Hern	McCarthy	Sessions
Herrrell	McCauley	Simpson
Herrera Beutler	McClain	Smith (MO)
Hice (GA)	McClintock	Smith (NE)
Higgins (LA)	McHenry	Smith (NJ)
Hill	McKinley	Smucker
Hinson	Meijer	Spartz
Hollingsworth	Meuser	Stauber
Hudson	Miller (IL)	Steel
Huizenga	Miller (WV)	Stefanik
Issa	Miller-Meeks	Steil
Jackson	Moolenaar	Steube
Jacobs (NY)	Mooney	Stewart
Johnson (LA)	Moore (AL)	Taylor
Johnson (OH)	Moore (UT)	Tenney
Johnson (SD)	Mullin	Thompson (PA)
Jordan	Murphy (NC)	Tiffany
Joyce (OH)	Nehls	Timmons
Joyce (PA)	Newhouse	Turner
Katko	Norman	Upton
Keller	Obernolte	Valadao
Kelly (MS)	Owens	Van Drew
Kelly (PA)	Palazzo	Van Dyne
Kim (CA)	Palmer	Wagner
Kustoff	Pence	Walberg
LaHood	Perry	Waltz
LaMalfa	Pfluger	Weber (TX)
Lamborn	Posey	Webster (FL)
Latta	Reschenthaler	Wenstrup
LaTurner	Rice (SC)	Westerman
Lesko	Rodgers (WA)	Williams (TX)
Letlow	Rogers (AL)	Wilson (SC)
Long	Rogers (KY)	Wittman
Loudermilk	Rose	Womack
Lucas	Rosendale	Yakym
Luetkemeyer	Rouzer	Zeldin
Mace	Roy	

NOT VOTING—3

Cárdenas	Gonzalez (OH)	Rutherford
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□ 1508

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Baird (Bucshon)	Gottheimer	Pascarell
Bass (Cicilline)	(Pappas)	(Pallone)
Beatty (Neguse)	Grijalva (Neguse)	Pressley
Brooks	Herrera Beutler	(Neguse)
(Fleischmann)	(Moore (UT))	Rice (NY)
Cole (Lucas)	Johnson (TX)	(Morelle)
DeFazio	(Pallone)	Roybal-Allard
(Pallone)	Kildee (Pappas)	(Correa)
Demings (Blunt)	Kinzinger (Rice)	Ruppersberger
Rochester	(SC)	(Sarbanes)
Doyle, Michael	Kirkpatrick	Ryan (OH)
F. (Pallone)	(Pallone)	(Correa)
Duncan	Lieu (Beyer)	Simpson
(Norman)	Lowenthal	(Fulcher)
Dunn (Cammack)	(Beyer)	Sires (Pallone)
Frankel, Lois	Moore (WI)	Stanton
(Meng)	(Beyer)	(Huffman)
Galleo	Newman (Correa)	Steube
(Cicilline)	O'Halleran	(Franklin, C.
Gosar (Weber	(Pappas)	Scott)
(TX))	Palazzo	Titus (Pallone)
	(Fleischmann)	Welch (Pallone)

MOTION TO SUSPEND THE RULES AND PASS CERTAIN BILLS

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, pursuant to section 3 of House Resolution 1508, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bills: H.R. 8844, S. 198, and S. 1687.

The Clerk read the title of the bills. The text of the bills are as follows:

STEP IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2022

H.R. 8844

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “STEP Improvement Act of 2022”.

SEC. 2. STATE TRADE EXPANSION PROGRAM.

(a) APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS.—Section 22(l)(3) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 649(l)(3)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (D)—

(A) in clause (i), by inserting “, including a budget plan for use of funds awarded under this subsection” before the period at the end; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new clause:

“(iii) TIMING.—The Associate Administrator shall—

“(I) publish information on how to apply for a grant under this subsection, including specific calculations and other determinations used to award such a grant, not later than March 31 of each year;

“(II) establish a deadline for the submission of applications that is not earlier than 60 days after the date on which the information is published under subclause (I) and that is not later than May 31; and

“(III) announce grant recipients not later than August 31 of each year.”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subparagraphs:

“(B) APPLICATION INFORMATION.—The Associate Administrator shall clearly communicate to applicants and grant recipients any information about State Trade Expansion Program, including—

“(i) for each unsuccessful applicant for a grant awarded under this subsection, recommendations to improve a subsequent application for such a grant; and

“(ii) for each successful applicant for such a grant, an explanation for the amount awarded, if different from the amount requested in the application.

“(F) BUDGET PLAN REVISIONS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—A State receiving a grant under this subsection may revise the budget plan of the State submitted under subparagraph (D) after the disbursement of grant funds if—

“(I) the revision complies with allowable uses of grant funds under this subsection; and

“(II) such State submits notification of the revision to the Associate Administrator.

“(ii) EXCEPTION.—If a revision under clause (i) reallocates 10 percent or more of the amounts described in the budget plan of the State submitted under subparagraph (D), the State may not implement the revised budget plan without the approval of the Associate Administrator, unless the Associate Administrator fails to approve or deny the revised plan within 20 days after receipt of such revised plan.”.

(b) SURVEY.—Section 22(l) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 649(l)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (7) through (9) as paragraphs (8) through (10), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (6) the following new paragraph:

“(7) SURVEY.—The Associate Administrator shall conduct an annual survey of each State that received a grant under this subsection during the preceding year to solicit feedback on the program and develop best practices for grantees.”.

(c) ANNUAL REPORT.—Section 22(l)(8)(B) of the Small Business Act, as redesignated by subsection (b), is amended—

(1) in clause (i)—

(A) in subclause (III), by inserting “, including the total number of eligible small business concerns assisted by the program (disaggregated by socially and economically disadvantaged small business concerns, small business concerns owned and con-

trolled by women, and rural small business concerns)” before the semicolon at the end;

(B) in subclause (IV), by striking “and” at the end;

(C) in subclause (V)—

(i) by striking “description of best practices” and inserting “detailed description of best practices”; and

(ii) by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(D) by adding at the end the following new subclauses:

“(VI) an analysis of the performance metrics described in clause (iii), including a determination of whether or not any goals relating to such performance metrics were met, and an analysis of the survey described in paragraph (7); and

“(VII) a description of lessons learned by grant recipients under this subsection that may apply to other assistance provided by the Administration.”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new clause:

“(iii) PERFORMANCE METRICS.—Annually, the Associate Administrator shall collect data on eligible small business concerns assisted by the program for the following performance metrics:

“(I) Total number of such concerns, disaggregated by socially and economically disadvantaged small business concerns, small business concerns owned and controlled by women, and rural small business concerns.

“(II) Total dollar amount of export sales by eligible small business concerns assisted by the program.

“(III) Number of such concerns that have not previously participated in an activity described in paragraph (2).

“(IV) Number of such concerns that, because of participation in the program, have accessed a new market.

“(V) Number of such concerns that, because of participation in the program, have created new jobs.

“(VI) Number of such concerns participating in foreign trade missions or trade show exhibitions, disaggregated by socially and economically disadvantaged small business concerns, small business concerns owned and controlled by women, and rural small business concerns.”.

(d) EXPANSION OF DEFINITION OF ELIGIBLE SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN.—Section 22(l)(1)(A) of the Small Business Act is amended—

(1) in clause (iii)(II), by adding “and” at the end;

(2) by striking clause (iv); and

(3) by redesignating clause (v) as clause (iv).

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 22(l)(10) of the Small Business Act, as redesignated by subsection (b), is amended by striking “fiscal years 2016 through 2020” and inserting “fiscal years 2023 through 2026”.

(f) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Associate Administrator for International Trade of the Small Business Administration shall submit to Congress a report on the State Trade Expansion Program established under section 22(l) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 649(l)) that includes a description of—

(1) the process developed for review of revised budget plans submitted under section 22(l)(3)(F) of the Small Business Act, as added by this Act;

(2) any changes made to streamline the application process to remove duplicative requirements and create a more transparent process;

(3) the process developed to share best practices by States described in section

22(1)(8)(B)(i)(V) (as redesignated by this Act), particularly for first-time grant recipients under the State Trade Expansion Program or grant recipients that are facing problems using grant funds; and

(4) the process developed to communicate, both verbally and in writing, relevant information about the State Trade Expansion Program to all grant recipients in a timely manner.

DATA MAPPING TO SAVE MOMS' LIVES ACT
S. 198

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Data Mapping to Save Moms' Lives Act".

SEC. 2. MAPPING BROADBAND CONNECTIVITY AND MATERNAL HEALTH OUTCOMES.

(a) INCORPORATION OF MATERNAL MORTALITY AND SEVERE MATERNAL MORBIDITY DATA.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Federal Communications Commission shall incorporate publicly available data on maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity, including for not less than 1 year postpartum, into the Mapping Broadband Health in America platform of the Commission.

(b) CONSULTATION WITH CDC.—The Federal Communications Commission shall consult with the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention regarding the maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity data that should be incorporated under subsection (a).

SMALL BUSINESS CYBER TRAINING ACT OF 2022
S. 1687

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Small Business Cyber Training Act of 2022".

SEC. 2. DUTIES OF SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER COUNSELORS.

(a) CYBER TRAINING.—Section 21 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(o) CYBER STRATEGY TRAINING FOR SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTERS.—

"(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection—

"(A) the term 'cyber strategy' means resources and tactics to assist in planning for cybersecurity and defending against cyber risks and attacks; and

"(B) the term 'lead small business development center' means a small business development center that receives reimbursement from the Administrator under paragraph (5).

"(2) CERTIFICATION PROGRAM.—The Administrator shall establish a cyber counseling certification program, or designate 1 or more substantially similar governmental or private cybersecurity certification programs, to certify the employees of lead small business development centers in providing cyber planning assistance to small business concerns.

"(3) NUMBER OF CERTIFIED EMPLOYEES.—The Administrator shall ensure that the number of employees of each lead small business development center who are certified in providing cyber planning assistance is not less than the lesser of—

"(A) 5; or

"(B) 10 percent of the total number of employees of the lead small business development center.

"(4) CYBER STRATEGY.—In carrying out paragraph (2), the Administrator, to the extent practicable, shall consider any cyber strategy methods included in the Small

Business Development Center Cyber Strategy developed under section 1841(a)(3)(B) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-328; 130 Stat. 2662).

"(5) REIMBURSEMENT FOR CERTIFICATION.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability of appropriations, the Administrator may reimburse each lead small business development center for costs relating to the certification of 1 or more employees of the lead small business center in providing cyber planning assistance under a program established or designated under paragraph (2).

"(B) LIMITATION.—The total amount reimbursed by the Administrator under subparagraph (A) may not exceed \$350,000 in any fiscal year."

(b) IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall implement paragraphs (2), (3), and (4) of section 21(o) of the Small Business Act, as added by subsection (a).

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. DINGELL). Pursuant to section 3 of House Resolution 1508, the ordering of the yeas and nays on postponed motions to suspend the rules with respect to such measures is vacated to the end that all such motions are considered as withdrawn.

The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bills.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Mr. ROSENDALE. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 380, nays 46, not voting 5, as follows:

[Roll No. 504]

YEAS—380

Adams	Burgess	Cuellar
Aderholt	Bush	Curtis
Aguilar	Bustos	Davids (KS)
Allen	Butterfield	Davis, Danny K.
Allred	Calvert	Davis, Rodney
Amodei	Carbajal	Dean
Armstrong	Cárdenas	DeFazio
Arrington	Carey	DeGette
Auchincloss	Carl	DeLauro
Axne	Carson	DelBene
Babin	Carter (GA)	Demings
Bacon	Carter (LA)	DeSaulnier
Baird	Carter (TX)	DesJarlais
Balderson	Cartwright	Diaz-Balart
Banks	Case	Dingell
Barr	Casten	Doggett
Barragán	Castor (FL)	Doyle, Michael
Bass	Castro (TX)	F.
Beatty	Chabot	Dunn
Bentz	Cherfilus-	Ellzey
Bera	McCormick	Emmer
Bergman	Chu	Escobar
Beyer	Cielline	Eshoo
Bice (OK)	Clark (MA)	Espallat
Bilirakis	Clarke (NY)	Evans
Bishop (GA)	Cleaver	Feenstra
Blumenauer	Clyburn	Ferguson
Blunt Rochester	Cohen	Finstad
Bonamici	Cole	Fischbach
Bost	Comer	Fitzgerald
Bourdeaux	Connolly	Fitzpatrick
Bowman	Conway	Fleischmann
Boyle, Brendan	Cooper	Fletcher
F.	Correa	Flood
Brady	Costa	Flores
Brown (MD)	Courtney	Foster
Brown (OH)	Craig	Fox
Brownley	Crawford	Frankel, Lois
Buchanan	Crenshaw	Franklin, C.
Bucshon	Crow	Scott

Gaetz	Levin (CA)	Ruiz
Gallagher	Levin (MI)	Ruppersberger
Gallego	Lieu	Rush
Garamendi	Lofgren	Ryan (NY)
Garbarino	Long	Ryan (OH)
Garcia (CA)	Lowenthal	Salazar
Garcia (IL)	Lucas	Sánchez
Garcia (TX)	Luetkemeyer	Sarbanes
Gibbs	Luria	Scalise
Jimenez	Lynch	Scanlon
Golden	Mace	Schakowsky
Gomez	Malinowski	Schiff
Gonzales, Tony	Malliotakis	Schneider
Gottheimer	Maloney,	Schrader
Granger	Carolyn B.	Schrier
Graves (LA)	Maloney, Sean	Scott (VA)
Graves (MO)	Mann	Scott, Austin
Green (TN)	Manning	Scott, David
Green, Al (TX)	Mast	Sempolinski
Griffith	Matsui	Sessions
Grijalva	McBath	Sewell
Guest	McCarthy	Sherman
Guthrie	McCaul	Sherrill
Harder (CA)	McClain	Simpson
Harshbarger	McCollum	Sires
Hartzler	McGovern	Slotkin
Hayes	McHenry	Smith (MO)
Herrrell	McKinley	Smith (NE)
Herrera Beutler	McNerney	Smith (NJ)
Higgins (NY)	Meeks	Smith (WA)
Hill	Meijer	Smucker
Himes	Meng	Soto
Hinson	Meuser	Spanberger
Hollingsworth	Mfume	Spartz
Horsford	Miller (WV)	Speier
Houlahan	Miller-Meeks	Stansbury
Hoyer	Moolenaar	Stanton
Hudson	Mooney	Stauber
Huffman	Moore (AL)	Steel
Huizenga	Moore (UT)	Stefanik
Issa	Moore (WI)	Steil
Jackson	Morelle	Stevens
Jackson Lee	Moulton	Stewart
Jacobs (CA)	Mrvan	Strickland
Jacobs (NY)	Mullin	Suozi
Jayapal	Murphy (FL)	Swailwell
Jeffries	Murphy (NC)	Takano
Johnson (GA)	Nadler	Tenney
Johnson (LA)	Napolitano	Thompson (CA)
Johnson (OH)	Neal	Thompson (MS)
Johnson (SD)	Neguse	Thompson (PA)
Johnson (TX)	Newhouse	
Jones	Newman	
Joyce (OH)	Norcross	
Joyce (PA)	O'Halleran	
Kahele	Obernolte	
Kaptur	Ocasio-Cortez	
Katko	Omar	
Keating	Owens	
Keller	Palazzo	
Kelly (IL)	Pallone	
Kelly (MS)	Palmer	
Kelly (PA)	Panetta	
Khanna	Pappas	
Kildee	Pascarell	
Kilmer	Payne	
Kim (CA)	Peltola	
Kim (NJ)	Pence	
Kind	Perlmutter	
Kirkpatrick	Peters	
Krishnamoorthi	Pfleger	
Kuster	Phillips	
Kustoff	Pingree	
LaHood	Pocan	
LaMalfa	Porter	
Lamb	Posey	
Lamborn	Pressley	
Langevin	Price (NC)	
Larsen (WA)	Quigley	
Larson (CT)	Raskin	
Latta	Reschenthaler	
LaTurner	Rice (NY)	
Lawrence	Rice (SC)	
Lawson (FL)	Rodgers (WA)	
Lee (CA)	Rogers (AL)	
Lee (NV)	Rogers (KY)	
Leger Fernandez	Ross	
Lesko	Rouzer	
Letlow	Roybal-Allard	

NAYS—46

Biggs	Cawthorn	Fallon
Bishop (NC)	Cline	Fulcher
Boebert	Cloud	Gohmert
Brooks	Clyde	Good (VA)
Buck	Davidson	Gooden (TX)
Budd	Donalds	Gosar
Burchett	Duncan	Greene (GA)
Cammack	Estes	Grothman

Harris Miller (IL) Steube
Hern Nehls Taylor
Hice (GA) Norman Tiffany
Higgins (LA) Perry Timmons
Jordan Rose Van Drew
Loudermilk Rosendale Webster (FL)
Massie Roy
McClintock Schweikert

NOT VOTING—5

Cheney Gonzalez, Kinzinger
Gonzalez (OH) Vicente Rutherford

□ 1519

Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas changed his vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bills were passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated against:

Mr. JACKSON. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 504, I mistakenly voted “yes” when I intended to vote “no.”

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE
RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Baird (Buchshon)	Gottheimer	Pressley
Bass (Cicilline)	(Pappas)	(Neguse)
Beatty (Neguse)	Grijalva (Neguse)	Rice (NY)
Brooks	Herrera Beutler	(Morelle)
(Fleischmann)	(Moore (UT))	Roybal-Allard
Cole (Lucas)	Johnson (TX)	(Correa)
DeFazio	(Pallone)	Ruppersberger
(Pallone)	Kildee (Pappas)	(Sarbanes)
Demings (Blunt)	Kirkpatrick	Ryan (OH)
Rochester	(Pallone)	(Correa)
Doyle, Michael	Lieu (Beyer)	Simpson
F. (Pallone)	(Beyer)	(Fulcher)
Duncan	Moore (WI)	Sires (Pallone)
(Norman)	(Beyer)	Stanton
Dunn (Cammack)	Newman (Correa)	(Huffman)
Frankel, Lois	O'Halleran	Steube
(Meng)	(Pappas)	(Franklin, C.)
Gallego	Palazzo	Scott)
(Cicilline)	(Fleischmann)	Titus (Pallone)
Gosar (Weber	Pascrell	Welch (Pallone)
(TX))	(Pallone)	

EARLY HEARING DETECTION AND
INTERVENTION ACT OF 2022

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 4052) to reauthorize a program for early detection, diagnosis, and treatment regarding deaf and hard-of-hearing newborns, infants, and young children, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 408, nays 17, not voting 6, as follows:

[Roll No. 505]

YEAS—408

Adams	Axne	Beatty
Aderholt	Babin	Bentz
Aguilar	Bacon	Bera
Allen	Baird	Bergman
Allred	Balderson	Beyer
Amodei	Banks	Bice (OK)
Armstrong	Barr	Bilirakis
Arrington	Barragán	Bishop (GA)
Auchincloss	Bass	Blumenauer

Blunt Rochester	Flood	Lawson (FL)
Boebert	Flores	Lee (CA)
Bonamici	Poster	Lee (NV)
Bost	Poxx	Leger Fernandez
Bourdeaux	Frankel, Lois	Lesko
Bowman	Franklin, C.	Letlow
Boyle, Brendan F.	Scott	Levin (CA)
Brady	Fulcher	Levin (MI)
Brooks	Gaetz	Lieu
Brown (MD)	Gallagher	Lofgren
Brown (OH)	Gallego	Long
Brownley	Garamendi	Loudermilk
Buchanan	Garbarino	Lowenthal
Buck	Garcia (CA)	Lucas
Bucshon	Garcia (IL)	Luetkemeyer
Budd	Garcia (TX)	Luria
Burchett	Gibbs	Lynch
Burgess	Gimenez	Mace
Bush	Golden	Malinowski
Bustos	Gomez	Malliotakis
Butterfield	Gonzales, Tony	Maloney,
Calvert	Gonzalez,	Carolyn B.
Cammack	Vicente	Maloney, Sean
Carbajal	Gooden (TX)	Mann
Cárdenas	Gosar	Manning
Carey	Gottheimer	Mast
Carl	Granger	Matsui
Carson	Graves (LA)	McBath
Carter (GA)	Graves (MO)	McCarthy
Carter (LA)	Green (TN)	McCauley
Carter (TX)	Green, Al (TX)	McClain
Cartwright	Grijalva	McCollum
Case	Grothman	McGovern
Casten	Guest	McHenry
Castor (FL)	Guthrie	McKinley
Castro (TX)	Harder (CA)	McNerney
Cawthorn	Harris	Meeks
Chabot	Harshbarger	Meijer
Cherfilus-	Hartzler	Meng
McCormick	Hayes	Meuser
Chu	Hern	Mfume
Cicilline	Herrell	Miller (WV)
Clark (MA)	Herrera Beutler	Miller-Meeks
Clarke (NY)	Higgins (NY)	Mooleenaar
Cleaver	Hill	Mooney
Cline	Himes	Moore (AL)
Cloud	Hinson	Moore (UT)
Clyburn	Hollingsworth	Moore (WI)
Cohen	Horsford	Morelle
Cole	Houlahan	Moulton
Comer	Mrvan	Mullin
Connolly	Hoyer	Murphy (FL)
Conway	Hudson	Murphy (NC)
Cooper	Huffman	Nadler
Correa	Huizenga	Napolitano
Costa	Issa	Neal
Courtney	Jackson	Neguse
Craig	Jackson Lee	Newhouse
Crawford	Jacobs (CA)	Newman
Crenshaw	Jacobs (NY)	Norcross
Crow	Jayapal	O'Halleran
Cuellar	Jeffries	Obernolte
Curtis	Johnson (GA)	Ocasio-Cortez
Davids (KS)	Johnson (LA)	Omar
Davidson	Johnson (OH)	Owens
Davis, Danny K.	Johnson (SD)	Palazzo
Davis, Rodney	Johnson (TX)	Pallone
Dean	Jones	Palmer
DeFazio	Jordan	Panetta
DeGette	Joyce (OH)	Pappas
DeLauro	Joyce (PA)	Pascrell
DelBene	Kahele	Payne
Demings	Kaptur	Peltola
DeSaulnier	Katko	Pence
DesJarlais	Keating	Perlmutter
Diaz-Balart	Keller	Peters
Dingell	Kelly (IL)	Pfluger
Doggett	Kelly (MS)	Phillips
Donalds	Kelly (PA)	Pingree
Doyle, Michael F.	Khanna	Pocan
Dunn	Kildee	Porter
Ellzey	Kilmer	Posey
Emmer	Kim (CA)	Pressley
Escobar	Kim (NJ)	Price (NC)
Eshoo	Kind	Quigley
Espallat	Kirkpatrick	Raskin
Estes	Krishnamoorthi	Reschenthaler
Evans	Kuster	Rice (NY)
Fallon	Kustoff	Rice (SC)
Feenstra	LaHood	Rodgers (WA)
Ferguson	LaMalfa	Rogers (AL)
Finstad	Lamb	Rogers (KY)
Fischbach	Lamborn	Rose
Fitzgerald	Langevin	Ross
Fitzpatrick	Larsen (WA)	Rouzer
Fleischmann	Larson (CT)	Roybal-Allard
Fletcher	Latta	Ruiz
	LaTurner	Ruppersberger
	Lawrence	

Rush	Spanberger	Valadao
Ryan (NY)	Spartz	Van Drew
Ryan (OH)	Speler	Van Dyne
Salazar	Stansbury	Vargas
Sánchez	Stanton	Veasey
Sarbanes	Staubert	Velázquez
Scalise	Steel	Wagner
Scanlon	Stefanik	Walberg
Schakowsky	Stell	Waltz
Schiff	Steube	Wasserman
Schneider	Stevens	Schultz
Schrader	Stewart	Waters
Schrier	Strickland	Watson Coleman
Schweikert	Suozzi	Weber (TX)
Scott (VA)	Swalwell	Webster (FL)
Scott, Austin	Takano	Welch
Scott, David	Tenney	Wenstrup
Sempolinski	Thompson (CA)	Westerman
Sessions	Thompson (MS)	Wexton
Sewell	Thompson (PA)	Wild
Sherman	Tiffany	Williams (GA)
Sherrill	Timmons	Williams (TX)
Simpson	Titus	Wilson (FL)
Sires	Tlaib	Wilson (SC)
Slotkin	Tonko	Wittman
Smith (MO)	Torres (CA)	Womack
Smith (NE)	Trahan	Yakum
Smith (NJ)	Trone	Yarmuth
Smith (WA)	Turner	Zeldin
Smucker	Underwood	
Soto	Upton	

NAYS—17

Biggs	Greene (GA)	Norman
Bishop (NC)	Hice (GA)	Perry
Clyde	Higgins (LA)	Rosendale
Duncan	Massie	Roy
Gohmert	McClintock	Taylor
Good (VA)	Miller (IL)	

NOT VOTING—6

Cheney	Kinzinger	Rutherford
Gonzalez (OH)	Nehls	Torres (NY)

□ 1530

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE
RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Baird (Buchshon)	Gottheimer	Pressley
Bass (Cicilline)	(Pappas)	(Neguse)
Beatty (Neguse)	Grijalva (Neguse)	Rice (NY)
Brooks	Herrera Beutler	(Morelle)
(Fleischmann)	(Moore (UT))	Roybal-Allard
Cole (Lucas)	Johnson (TX)	(Correa)
DeFazio	(Pallone)	Ruppersberger
(Pallone)	Kildee (Pappas)	(Sarbanes)
Demings (Blunt)	Kirkpatrick	Ryan (OH)
Rochester	(Pallone)	(Correa)
Doyle, Michael	Lieu (Beyer)	Simpson
F. (Pallone)	Lowenthal	(Fulcher)
Duncan	(Beyer)	Sires (Pallone)
(Norman)	Moore (WI)	Stanton
Dunn (Cammack)	(Beyer)	(Huffman)
Frankel, Lois	Newman (Correa)	Steube
(Meng)	O'Halleran	(Franklin, C.)
Gallego	(Pappas)	Scott)
(Cicilline)	Palazzo	Titus (Pallone)
Gosar (Weber	(Fleischmann)	Welch (Pallone)
(TX))	Pascrell	
	(Pallone)	

SBA CYBER AWARENESS ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 3462) to require an annual report on the cybersecurity of the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by

the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 417, nays 0, not voting 14, as follows:

[Roll No. 506]

YEAS—417

Adams	Courtney	Herrell
Aderholt	Craig	Herrera Beutler
Aguilar	Crawford	Hice (GA)
Allen	Crenshaw	Higgins (LA)
Allred	Crow	Higgins (NY)
Amodei	Cuellar	Hill
Armstrong	Curtis	Himes
Arrington	Daids (KS)	Hinson
Auchincloss	Davidson	Hollingsworth
Axne	Davis, Danny K.	Houlahan
Babin	Davis, Rodney	Hoyer
Bacon	Dean	Hudson
Baird	DeFazio	Huffman
Balderson	DeGette	Huizenga
Banks	DeLauro	Issa
Barr	DelBene	Jackson
Barragán	Demings	Jackson Lee
Bass	DeSaulnier	Jacobs (CA)
Beatty	DesJarlais	Jacobs (NY)
Bentz	Diaz-Balart	Jayapal
Bera	Dingell	Jeffries
Bergman	Doggett	Johnson (GA)
Bice (OK)	Donalds	Johnson (LA)
Biggs	Doyle, Michael	Johnson (OH)
Bilirakis	F.	Johnson (SD)
Bishop (GA)	Duncan	Johnson (TX)
Bishop (NC)	Dunn	Jones
Blumenauer	Ellzey	Jordan
Blunt Rochester	Emmer	Joyce (OH)
Boebert	Escobar	Joyce (PA)
Bonamici	Eshoo	Kahele
Bost	Espallat	Kaptur
Bourdeaux	Estes	Katko
Bowman	Evans	Keating
Boyle, Brendan	Fallon	Keller
F.	Feenstra	Kelly (IL)
Brady	Ferguson	Kelly (MS)
Brooks	Finstad	Kelly (PA)
Brown (MD)	Fischbach	Khanna
Brown (OH)	Fitzgerald	Kildee
Brownley	Fitzpatrick	Kilmer
Buchanan	Fleischmann	Kim (CA)
Buck	Fletcher	Kim (NJ)
Bucshon	Flood	Kind
Budd	Flores	Kirkpatrick
Burchett	Foxx	Krishnamoorthi
Burgess	Frankel, Lois	Kuster
Bush	Franklin, C.	Kustoff
Bustos	Scott	LaHood
Butterfield	Fulcher	LaMalfa
Calvert	Gaetz	Lamb
Cammack	Gallagher	Lamborn
Carbajal	Gallego	Langevin
Cárdenas	Garamendi	Larsen (WA)
Carey	Garbarino	Larson (CT)
Carl	Garcia (CA)	Latta
Carson	Garcia (IL)	LaTurner
Carter (GA)	Garcia (TX)	Lawrence
Carter (LA)	Gibbs	Lawson (FL)
Carter (TX)	Giemenz	Lee (CA)
Cartwright	Gohmert	Lee (NV)
Case	Golden	Leger Fernandez
Casten	Gomez	Lesko
Castor (FL)	Gonzales, Tony	Letlow
Castro (TX)	Gonzalez,	Levin (CA)
Cawthorn	Vicente	Levin (MI)
Chabot	Good (VA)	Lofgren
Cherfilus-	Gooden (TX)	Long
McCormick	Gosar	Loudermilk
Chu	Gottheimer	Lucas
Cicilline	Granger	Luetkemeyer
Clark (MA)	Graves (LA)	Luria
Clarke (NY)	Graves (MO)	Lynch
Cleaver	Green (TN)	Mace
Cline	Green, Al (TX)	Malinowski
Cloud	Greene (GA)	Malliotakis
Clyburn	Griffith	Maloney,
Clyde	Grijalva	Carolyn B.
Cohen	Grothman	Maloney, Sean
Cole	Guest	Mann
Comer	Guthrie	Manning
Connolly	Harder (CA)	Massie
Conway	Harris	Mast
Cooper	Harshbarger	Matsui
Correa	Hayes	McBath
Costa	Hern	McCarthy

McCaul	Posey	Steel
McClain	Pressley	Stefanik
McClintock	Price (NC)	Steil
McCollum	Quigley	Steube
McGovern	Raskin	Stevens
McHenry	Reschenthaler	Stewart
McKinley	Rice (NY)	Strickland
McNerney	Rice (SC)	Suozzi
Meeks	Rodgers (WA)	Swalwell
Meijer	Rogers (AL)	Takano
Meng	Rogers (KY)	Taylor
Meuser	Rose	Tenney
Mfume	Rosendale	Thompson (CA)
Miller (IL)	Ross	Thompson (MS)
Miller (WV)	Rouzer	Thompson (PA)
Miller-Meeks	Roy	Tiffany
Moolenaar	Roybal-Allard	Timmons
Mooney	Ruiz	Titus
Moore (AL)	Ruppersberger	Tlaib
Moore (UT)	Rush	Tonko
Morelle	Ryan (NY)	Torres (CA)
Moulton	Ryan (OH)	Torres (NY)
Mrvan	Salazar	Trahan
Mullin	Sánchez	Trone
Murphy (FL)	Sarbanes	Turner
Murphy (NC)	Scalise	Underwood
Nadler	Scanlon	Upton
Napolitano	Schakowsky	Valadao
Neal	Schiff	Van Drew
Neguse	Schneider	Van Dyuine
Nehls	Schrader	Vargas
Newhouse	Schrier	Veasey
Newman	Schweikert	Scott (VA)
Norcross	Scott (VA)	Velázquez
Norman	Scott, Austin	Wagner
O'Halleran	Scott, David	Walberg
Obernolte	Sempolinski	Waltz
Ocasio-Cortez	Sessions	Wasserman
Omar	Sewell	Schultz
Owens	Sherman	Watson Coleman
Palazzo	Sherrill	Weber (TX)
Pallone	Simpson	Webster (FL)
Palmer	Sires	Welch
Panetta	Slotkin	Wenstrup
Pappas	Smith (MO)	Westerman
Pascarell	Smith (NE)	Wexton
Payne	Smith (NJ)	Wild
Peltola	Smith (WA)	Williams (GA)
Pence	Smucker	Williams (TX)
Perlmutter	Soto	Wilson (FL)
Perry	Spanberger	Wilson (SC)
Pfluger	Spartz	Wittman
Phillips	Speier	Womack
Pingree	Stansbury	Yakym
Philmer	Stanton	Zeldin
Pocan	Stauber	
Porter		

NOT VOTING—14

Beyer	Horsford	Peters
Cheney	Kinzinger	Rutherford
Foster	Lieu	Waters
Gonzalez (OH)	Lowenthal	Yarmuth
Hartzler	Moore (WI)	

□ 1539

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the Senate amendment was concurred in.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Baird (Bucshon)	Gosar (Weber	Pressley
Bass (Cicilline)	(TX))	(Neguse)
Beatty (Neguse)	Gottheimer	Rice (NY)
Brooks	(Pappas)	(Morelle)
(Fleischmann)	Grijalva (Neguse)	Roybal-Allard
Cole (Lucas)	Herrera Beutler	(Correa)
DeFazio	(Moore (UT))	Ruppersberger
(Pallone)	Johnson (TX)	(Sarbanes)
Demings (Blunt	(Pallone)	Ryan (OH)
Rochester)	Kildee (Pappas)	(Correa)
Doyle, Michael	Kirkpatrick	Simpson
F. (Pallone)	(Fulcher)	(Pallone)
Duncan	(Pallone)	Sires (Pallone)
(Norman)	Newman (Correa)	Stanton
Dunn (Cammack)	O'Halleran	(Huffman)
Frankel, Lois	(Pappas)	Steube
(Meng)	Palazzo	(Franklin, C.
Gallego	(Fleischmann)	Scott)
(Cicilline)	Pascarell	Titus (Pallone)
	(Pallone)	Welch (Pallone)

COMMUNITY DISASTER RESILIENCE ZONES ACT OF 2022

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 3875) to require the President to develop and maintain products that show the risk of natural hazards across the United States, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 333, nays 92, not voting 6, as follows:

[Roll No. 507]

YEAS—333

Adams	Correa	Hoyer
Aderholt	Costa	Hudson
Aguilar	Courtney	Huffman
Allred	Craig	Huizenga
Amodei	Crenshaw	Issa
Armstrong	Crow	Jackson Lee
Arrington	Cuellar	Jacobs (CA)
Auchincloss	Curtis	Jacobs (NY)
Axne	Daids (KS)	Jayapal
Babin	Davis, Danny K.	Jeffries
Balderson	Davis, Rodney	Johnson (GA)
Barr	Dean	Johnson (OH)
Barragán	DeFazio	Johnson (SD)
Bass	DeGette	Johnson (TX)
Beatty	DeLauro	Jones
Bentz	DelBene	Joyce (OH)
Bera	Demings	Kahele
Beyer	DeSaulnier	Kaptur
Bilirakis	Diaz-Balart	Katko
Bishop (GA)	Dingell	Keating
Blumenauer	Doggett	Kelly (IL)
Blunt Rochester	Doyle, Michael	Kelly (PA)
Bonamici	F.	Khanna
Bost	Duncan	Kildee
Bourdeaux	Dunn	Kilmer
Bowman	Ellzey	Kim (CA)
Boyle, Brendan	Escobar	Kim (NJ)
F.	Eshoo	Kind
Brady	Espallat	Kirkpatrick
Brown (MD)	Evans	Krishnamoorthi
Brown (OH)	Fitzpatrick	Kuster
Brownley	Fletcher	LaHood
Buchanan	Flood	LaMalfa
Bucshon	Flores	Lamb
Budd	Foster	Langevin
Burgess	Frankel, Lois	Larsen (WA)
Bush	Gaetz	Larson (CT)
Bustos	Gallagher	Latta
Butterfield	Gallego	LaTurner
Calvert	Garamendi	Lawrence
Cammack	Garbarino	Lawson (FL)
Carbajal	Garcia (CA)	Lee (CA)
Cárdenas	Garcia (IL)	Lee (NV)
Carey	Garcia (TX)	Leger Fernandez
Carl	Gimenez	Letlow
Carson	Golden	Levin (CA)
Carter (GA)	Gomez	Levin (MI)
Carter (LA)	Gonzales, Tony	Lieu
Cartwright	Gonzalez (OH)	Lofgren
Case	Gonzalez,	Long
Casten	Vicente	Lowenthal
Castor (FL)	Gottheimer	Lucas
Castro (TX)	Granger	Luetkemeyer
Cawthorn	Graves (LA)	Luria
Chabot	Graves (MO)	Lynch
Cherfilus-	Green (TX)	Mace
McCormick	Green, Al (TX)	Malinowski
Chu	Grijalva	Malliotakis
Cicilline	Guthrie	Maloney,
Clark (MA)	Harder (CA)	Carolyn B.
Clarke (NY)	Hayes	Maloney, Sean
Cleaver	Herrera Beutler	Manning
Cohen	Higgins (NY)	Matsui
Cole	Hill	McBath
Comer	Himes	McCarthy
Connolly	Hinson	McCaul
Conway	Horsford	McCollum
Cooper	Houlahan	

McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McNerney
Meeks
Meijer
Meng
Mfume
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Mooney
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (NC)
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Newhouse
Newman
Norcross
O'Halleran
Oberholte
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pascarell
Payne
Peltola
Perlmutter
Peters
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Price (NC)

Quigley
Raskin
Reschenthaler
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Ross
Rouzer
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (NY)
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schradler
Schrier
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Simpson
Sires
Slotkin
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Soto
Spanberger
Spartz
Speier
Stansbury
Stanton
Stauber

Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Stevens
Stewart
Strickland
Suozzi
Swalwell
Takano
Taylor
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Upton
Valadao
Van Dwyne
Vargas
Veasey
Velázquez
Wagner
Walberg
Waltz
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Wilson (FL)
Wittman
Womack
Yakym

NAYS—92

Allen
Bacon
Baird
Banks
Bergman
Bice (OK)
Biggs
Bishop (NC)
Boebert
Brooks
Buck
Burchett
Carter (TX)
Cawthorn
Cline
Cloud
Clyde
Crawford
Davidson
DesJarlais
Donalds
Emmer
Estes
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fleischmann
Foxy

Franklin, C.
Scott
Fulcher
Gibbs
Gohmert
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Green (TN)
Greene (GA)
Griffith
Grothman
Guest
Harris
Harshbarger
Hartzler
Hern
Herrell
Hice (GA)
Higgins (LA)
Hollingsworth
Jackson
Johnson (LA)
Jordan
Joyce (PA)
Keller
Kelly (MS)
Kustoff
Lamborn
Lesko
Loudermilk

Mann
Massie
Mast
McClain
McClintock
Meuser
Miller (IL)
Moolenaar
Moore (AL)
Nehls
Norman
Palmer
Pence
Perry
Pfluger
Posey
Rose
Rosendale
Roy
Scalise
Schweikert
Sempolinski
Steube
Tennet
Tiffany
Timmons
Van Drew
Webster (FL)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (SC)
Zeldin

NOT VOTING—6

Cheney
Clyburn

Kinzing
Rutherford

Scott (VA)
Yarmuth

□ 1550

Messrs. BAIRD, BACON, GUEST, and MOOLENAAR changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE
RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Baird (Buchon)
Bass (Cicilline)
Beatty (Neguse)
Brooks
(Fleischmann)
Cole (Lucas)
DeFazio
(Pallone)
Demings (Blunt
Rochester)
Doyle, Michael
F. (Pallone)
Duncan
(Norman)
Dunn (Cammack)
Frankel, Lois
(Meng)
Gallego
(Cicilline)
Gosar (Weber
(TX))

Gottheimer
(Pappas)
Grijalva (Neguse)
Herrera Beutler
(Morelle)
(Moore (UT))
Johnson (TX)
(Pallone)
Kildee (Pappas)
Kirkpatrick
(Pallone)
Lieu (Beyer)
Lowenthal
(Beyer)
Moore (WI)
(Beyer)
Newman (Correa)
O'Halleran
(Pappas)
Palazzo
(Fleischmann)
Pascarell
(Pallone)

Pressley
(Neguse)
Rice (NY)
(Morelle)
Roybal-Allard
(Correa)
Ruppersberger
(Sarbanes)
Ryan (OH)
(Correa)
Simpson
(Fulcher)
Sires (Pallone)
Stanton
(Huffman)
Steube
(Franklin, C.
Scott)
Titus (Pallone)
Welch (Pallone)

REPEAL OF OBSOLETE DHS
CONTRACTING REQUIREMENTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 3499) to amend the Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act of 2006 to repeal certain obsolete requirements, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 424, nays 1, not voting 6, as follows:

[Roll No. 508]

YEAS—424

Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allen
Allred
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Auchincloss
Axne
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Benz
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Bice (OK)
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NC)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Boebert
Bonamici
Bost
Bourdeaux
Bowman
Boyle, Brendan
F.
Brady
Brown (MD)
Brown (OH)
Brownley

Buchanan
Buck
Buchon
Budd
Burchett
Burgess
Bush
Bustos
Butterfield
Calvert
Cammack
Carbajal
Cardenas
Carey
Carl
Carson
Carter (GA)
Carter (LA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Cawthorn
Chabot
Cherfilus-
McCormick
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Cline
Cloud
Clyde
Cohen
Cole
Comer
Connolly
Conway

Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crow
Cuellar
Curtis
Davids (KS)
Davidson
Davis, Danny K.
Davis, Rodney
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DeBene
Demings
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Donalds
Doyle, Michael
F.
Duncan
Dunn
Ellzey
Emmer
Escobar
Eshoo
Espallat
Estes
Evans
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Finstad

Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Flood
Flores
Foster
Foxy
Frankel, Lois
Franklin, C.
Scott
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
Garcia (CA)
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gibbs
Gimenez
Gohmert
Golden
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez (OH)
Gonzalez,
Vicente
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Green, Al (TX)
Greene (GA)
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Harder (CA)
Harris
Harshbarger
Hartzler
Hayes
Hern
Herrell
Herrera Beutler
Hice (GA)
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Hinson
Hollingsworth
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Issa
Jackson
Jackson Lee
Jacobs (CA)
Jacobs (NY)
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Johnson (TX)
Jones
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kahele
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Keller
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Kind
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster

Kustoff
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamb
Lamborn
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
LaTurner
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Leger Fernandez
Lesko
Letlow
Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lieu
Lofgren
Long
Loudermilk
Lowenthal
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luria
Lynch
Mace
Malinowski
Malliotakis
Maloney,
Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Mann
Manning
Massie
Mast
Matsui
McBath
McCarthy
McCauley
McClain
McClintock
McColum
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McNerney
Meeks
Meijer
Meng
Meuser
Mfume
Miller (IL)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (NC)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Nehls
Newhouse
Newman
Norcross
Norman
O'Halleran
Oberholte
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Pascarell
Payne
Peltola
Pence
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters
Pfluger
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter

Posey
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Reschenthaler
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rosendale
Ross
Rouzer
Roy
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (NY)
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scalise
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schradler
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sempolinski
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Simpson
Sires
Slotkin
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Soto
Spanberger
Spartz
Speier
Stansbury
Stanton
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stevens
Stewart
Strickland
Suozzi
Swalwell
Takano
Taylor
Tennet
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thompson
Timmons
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Upton
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Dwyne
Vargas
Veasey
Velázquez
Wagner
Walberg
Waltz
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup

Westerman	Williams (TX)	Womack
Wexton	Wilson (FL)	Yakym
Wild	Wilson (SC)	Zeldin
Williams (GA)	Wittman	

NAYS—1

Brooks

NOT VOTING—6

Cheney	Kinzing	Scott (VA)
Clyburn	Rutherford	Yarmuth

□ 1559

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE
RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Baird (Bucshon)	Gottheimer	Pressley
Bass (Cicilline)	(Pappas)	(Neguse)
Beatty (Neguse)	Grijalva (Neguse)	Rice (NY)
Brooks	Herrera Beutler	(Morelle)
(Fleischmann)	(Moore (UT))	Roybal-Allard
Cole (Lucas)	Johnson (TX)	(Correa)
DeFazio	(Pallone)	Ruppersberger
(Pallone)	Kildee (Pappas)	(Sarbanes)
Demings (Blunt)	Kirkpatrick	Ryan (OH)
Rochester)	(Pallone)	(Correa)
Doyle, Michael	Lieu (Beyer)	Simpson
F. (Pallone)	(Beyer)	(Fulcher)
Duncan	Moore (WI)	Sires (Pallone)
(Norman)	(Beyer)	Stanton
Dunn (Cammack)	Newman (Correa)	(Huffman)
Frankel, Lois	O'Halleran	Steube
(Meng)	(Pappas)	(Franklin, C.
Gallego	Palazzo	Scott)
(Cicilline)	(Fleischmann)	Titus (Pallone)
Gosar (Weber	Pascrell	Welch (Pallone)
(TX))	(Pallone)	

RURAL OPIOID ABUSE
PREVENTION ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 2796) to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to provide for the eligibility of rural community response pilot programs for funding under the Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Grant Program, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 408, nays 11, not voting 12, as follows:

[Roll No. 509]

YEAS—408

Adams	Barragán	Bost
Aderholt	Bass	Bourdeaux
Aguilar	Beatty	Bowman
Allen	Bentz	Boyle, Brendan
Allred	Bera	F.
Amodei	Bergman	Brady
Armstrong	Beyer	Brown (MD)
Arrington	Bice (OK)	Brown (OH)
Auchincloss	Bilirakis	Brownley
Axne	Bishop (GA)	Buchanan
Babin	Bishop (NC)	Buck
Bacon	Blumenauer	Bucshon
Balderson	Blunt Rochester	Budd
Banks	Boebert	Burchett
Barr	Bonamici	Burgess

Bush	Gonzalez,	Malliotakis
Bustos	Vicente	Maloney,
Butterfield	Good (VA)	Carolyn B.
Calvert	Gooden (TX)	Maloney, Sean
Cammack	Gosar	Mann
Carbajal	Gottheimer	Manning
Cárdenas	Granger	Massie
Carey	Graves (LA)	Mast
Carl	Graves (MO)	Matsui
Carson	Green (TN)	McBath
Carter (GA)	Green, Al (TX)	McCarthy
Carter (LA)	Griffith	McCaul
Carter (TX)	Grijalva	McClain
Cartwright	Grothman	McCollum
Case	Guest	McGovern
Casten	Guthrie	McHenry
Castor (FL)	Harder (CA)	McKinley
Castro (TX)	Harris	McNerney
Cawthorn	Harshbarger	Meeks
Chabot	Hartzler	Meijer
Hayes	Hern	Meng
Cherfilus-	McCormick	Meuser
	Chu	Mfume
	Cicilline	Miller (IL)
	Higgins (MA)	Miller (WV)
	Clarke (NY)	Miller-Meeks
	Cleaver	Hill
	Cline	Himes
	Cloud	Hinson
	Cohen	Hollingsworth
	Cole	Horsford
	Comer	Houlihan
	Connolly	Hoyer
	Conway	Hudson
	Cooper	Huffman
	Correa	Huizenga
	Costa	Issa
	Courtney	Jackson
	Craig	Jackson Lee
	Crawford	Jacobs (CA)
	Crenshaw	Jacobs (NY)
	Crow	Jayapal
	Cuellar	Jeffries
	Curtis	Johnson (GA)
	Davids (KS)	Johnson (LA)
	Davidson	Johnson (OH)
	Davis, Danny K.	Johnson (SD)
	Dean	Johnson (TX)
	DeFazio	Jones
	DeGette	Jordan
	DeLauro	Joyce (OH)
	DelBene	Joyce (PA)
	Demings	Kahele
	DeSaulnier	Kaptur
	DesJarlais	Katko
	Dingell	Keating
	Doggett	Keller
	Donalds	Kelly (IL)
	Doyle, Michael	Kelly (MS)
	F.	Kelly (PA)
	Dunn	Khanna
	Ellzey	Kildee
	Emmer	Kilmer
	Escobar	Kim (CA)
	Eshoo	Kim (NJ)
	Espallat	Kind
	Estes	Kirkpatrick
	Evans	Krishnamoorthi
	Fallon	Kuster
	Feenstra	Kustoff
	Ferguson	LaHood
	Finstad	LaMalfa
	Fischbach	Lamb
	Fitzgerald	Lamborn
	Fitzpatrick	Langevin
	Fleischmann	Larsen (WA)
	Fletcher	Larson (CT)
	Flood	Latta
	Flores	LaTurner
	Foster	Lawrence
	Fox	Lawson (FL)
	Frankel, Lois	Lee (CA)
	Franklin, C.	Lee (NV)
	Scott	Leger Fernandez
	Gallagher	Lesko
	Gallego	Letlow
	Garamendi	Levin (CA)
	Garbarino	Levin (MI)
	Garcia (CA)	Lieu
	Garcia (IL)	Lofgren
	Garcia (TX)	Long
	Gibbs	Loudermilk
	Gimenez	Lowenthal
	Ghmert	Lucas
	Golden	Luetkemeyer
	Gomez	Luria
	Gonzales, Tony	Lynch
	Gonzalez (OH)	Mace
		Malinowski

Sessions	Strickland	Veasey
Sewell	Suozy	Velázquez
Sherman	Swalwell	Wagner
Sherrill	Takano	Walberg
Simpson	Taylor	Waltz
Sires	Tenney	Wasserman
Slotkin	Thompson (CA)	Schultz
Smith (MO)	Thompson (MS)	Waters
Smith (NE)	Thompson (PA)	Watson Coleman
Smith (NJ)	Tiffany	Weber (TX)
Smith (WA)	Timmons	Webster (FL)
Smucker	Titus	Welch
Soto	Tlaib	Wenstrup
Spanberger	Tonko	Westerman
Spartz	Torres (CA)	Wexton
Speier	Torres (NY)	Wild
Stansbury	Trahan	Williams (GA)
Stanton	Trone	Williams (TX)
Stauber	Turner	Wilson (FL)
Steel	Underwood	Wilson (SC)
Stefanik	Upton	Wittman
Steil	Valadao	Womack
Steube	Van Drew	Yakym
Stevens	Van Dyne	Zeldin
Stewart	Vargas	

NAYS—11

Biggs	Gaetz	Norman
Brooks	Greene (GA)	Rosendale
Clyde	Hice (GA)	Roy
Duncan	McClintock	

NOT VOTING—12

Baird	Diaz-Balart	Rutherford
Cheney	Fulcher	Scalise
Clyburn	Kinzing	Scott (VA)
Davis, Rodney	Rush	Yarmuth

□ 1607

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE
RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Bass (Cicilline)	Gottheimer	Pascrell
Beatty (Neguse)	(Pappas)	(Pallone)
Brooks	Grijalva (Neguse)	Pressley
(Fleischmann)	Herrera Beutler	(Neguse)
Cole (Lucas)	(Moore (UT))	Rice (NY)
DeFazio	Johnson (TX)	(Morelle)
(Pallone)	(Pallone)	Roybal-Allard
Demings (Blunt)	Kildee (Pappas)	(Correa)
Rochester)	Kirkpatrick	Ruppersberger
Doyle, Michael	(Pallone)	(Sarbanes)
F. (Pallone)	Lieu (Beyer)	Ryan (OH)
Duncan	Lowenthal	(Correa)
(Norman)	(Beyer)	Simpson
Dunn (Cammack)	Moore (WI)	(Fulcher)
Frankel, Lois	(Beyer)	Sires (Pallone)
(Meng)	Newman (Correa)	Stanton
Gallego	O'Halleran	(Huffman)
(Cicilline)	(Pappas)	Steube
Gosar (Weber	Palazzo	(Franklin, C.
(TX))	(Fleischmann)	Scott)
		Titus (Pallone)
		Welch (Pallone)

PROVIDING RESOURCES, OFFI-
CERS, AND TECHNOLOGY TO
ERADICATE CYBER THREATS TO
OUR CHILDREN ACT OF 2022

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PARNETT). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 4834) to reauthorize the National Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force Program, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 421, nays 1, not voting 9, as follows:

[Roll No. 510]

YEAS—421

Adams	Cuellar	Hinson
Aderholt	Curtis	Hollingsworth
Aguilar	Horsford	Horsford
Allen	Davidson	Houlihan
Allred	Davis, Danny K.	Hoyer
Amodei	Davis, Rodney	Hudson
Armstrong	Dean	Huffman
Arrington	DeFazio	Huizenga
Auchincloss	DeGette	Issa
Axne	DeLauro	Jackson
Babin	DelBene	Jackson Lee
Bacon	Demings	Jacobs (CA)
Baird	DeSaulnier	Jacobs (NY)
Balderson	DesJarlais	Jayapal
Banks	Diaz-Balart	Jeffries
Barr	Dingell	Johnson (GA)
Barragán	Doggett	Johnson (LA)
Bass	Donalds	Johnson (OH)
Beatty	Doyle, Michael	Johnson (SD)
Bentz	F.	Johnson (TX)
Bera	Duncan	Jones
Bergman	Dunn	Jordan
Beyer	Ellzey	Joyce (OH)
Bice (OK)	Emmer	Joyce (PA)
Biggs	Escobar	Kahele
Billakis	Eshoo	Kaptur
Bishop (GA)	Españillat	Katko
Bishop (NC)	Estes	Keating
Blumenauer	Evans	Keller
Blunt Rochester	Fallon	Kelly (IL)
Boebert	Feenstra	Kelly (MS)
Bonamici	Ferguson	Kelly (PA)
Bost	Finstad	Khanna
Bourdeaux	Fischbach	Kildee
Bowman	Fitzgerald	Kimler
Boyle, Brendan	Fitzpatrick	Kim (CA)
F.	Fleischmann	Kim (NJ)
Brady	Fletcher	Kind
Brooks	Flood	Kirkpatrick
Brown (MD)	Flores	Krishnamoorthi
Brown (OH)	Foster	Kuster
Brownley	Fox	Kustoff
Buchanan	Frankel, Lois	LaHood
Buck	Franklin, C.	LaMalfa
Bucshon	Scott	Lamb
Budd	Fulcher	Lamborn
Burchett	Gaetz	Langevin
Burgess	Gallagher	Larsen (WA)
Bush	Gallego	Larson (CT)
Bustos	Garamendi	Latta
Butterfield	Garbarino	LaTurner
Calvert	Garcia (CA)	Lawrence
Cammack	Garcia (IL)	Lawson (FL)
Carbajal	Garcia (TX)	Lee (CA)
Cárdenas	Gibbs	Lee (NV)
Carey	Jimenez	Leger Fernandez
Carl	Gohmert	Lesko
Carson	Golden	Letlow
Carter (GA)	Gomez	Levin (CA)
Carter (LA)	Gonzales, Tony	Levin (MI)
Carter (TX)	Gonzalez (OH)	Lieu
Cartwright	Gonzalez,	Lofgren
Case	Vicente	Long
Casten	Good (VA)	Loudermilk
Castor (FL)	Gooden (TX)	Lowenthal
Castro (TX)	Gosar	Lucas
Cawthorn	Gottheimer	Luetkemeyer
Chabot	Granger	Luria
Cherfilus-	Graves (LA)	Lynch
McCormick	Graves (MO)	Mace
Chu	Green (TN)	Malinowski
Cicilline	Green, Al (TX)	Malliotakis
Clark (MA)	Greene (GA)	Maloney,
Clarke (NY)	Griffith	Carolyn B.
Cleaver	Grijalva	Maloney, Sean
Cline	Grothman	Mann
Cloud	Guest	Manning
Clyde	Guthrie	Massie
Cohen	Harder (CA)	Mast
Cole	Harris	Matsui
Comer	Harshbarger	McBath
Connolly	Hartzler	McCarthy
Conway	Hayes	McCaul
Cooper	Hern	McClain
Correa	Herrell	McCollum
Costa	Herrera Beutler	McGovern
Courtney	Hice (GA)	McHenry
Craig	Higgins (LA)	McKinley
Crawford	Higgins (NY)	McNerney
Crenshaw	Hill	Meijer
Crow	Himes	Meng

Meuser	Rice (NY)	Steube
Mfume	Rice (SC)	Stevens
Miller (IL)	Rodgers (WA)	Stewart
Miller (WV)	Rogers (AL)	Strickland
Miller-Meeks	Rogers (KY)	Suozzi
Moolenaar	Rose	Swalwell
Mooney	Rosendale	Takano
Moore (AL)	Ross	Taylor
Moore (UT)	Rouzer	Tenney
Moore (WI)	Roy	Thompson (CA)
Morelle	Roybal-Allard	Thompson (MS)
Moulton	Ruiz	Thompson (PA)
Mrvan	Ruppersberger	Tiffany
Mullin	Rush	Timmons
Murphy (FL)	Ryan (NY)	Titus
Murphy (NC)	Ryan (OH)	Tlaib
Nadler	Salazar	Tonko
Napolitano	Sánchez	Torres (CA)
Neguse	Sarbanes	Torres (NY)
Nehls	Scalise	Trahan
Newhouse	Scanlon	Trone
Newman	Schakowsky	Turner
Norcross	Schiff	Underwood
Norman	Schneider	Upton
O'Halleran	Schrader	Valadao
Obenolte	Schrier	Van Drew
Ocasio-Cortez	Schweikert	Van Duyne
Omar	Scott, Austin	Vargas
Owens	Scott, David	Veasey
Palazzo	Sempolinski	Velázquez
Pallone	Sessions	Wagner
Palmer	Sewell	Walberg
Panetta	Sherman	Waltz
Pappas	Sherrill	Wasserman
Pascarell	Simpson	Schultz
Payne	Sires	Waters
Peltola	Slotkin	Watson Coleman
Pence	Smith (MO)	Weber (TX)
Perlmutter	Smith (NE)	Webster (FL)
Perry	Smith (NJ)	Welch
Peters	Smith (WA)	Wenstrup
Pfizer	Smucker	Wexton
Phillips	Soto	Wild
Pingree	Spanberger	Williams (GA)
Pocan	Spartz	Williams (TX)
Porter	Speier	Wilson (FL)
Posey	Stansbury	Wilson (SC)
Pressley	Stanton	Wittman
Price (NC)	Stauber	Womack
Quigley	Steel	Yakym
Raskin	Stefanik	Zeldin
Reschenthaler	Steil	

NAYS—1

McClintock

NOT VOTING—9

Cheney	Meeks	Scott (VA)
Clyburn	Neal	Westerman
Kinzinger	Rutherford	Yarmuth

□ 1616

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE

RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Baird (Bucshon)	Gottheimer	Pressley
Bass (Cicilline)	(Pappas)	(Neguse)
Beatty (Neguse)	Grijalva (Neguse)	Rice (NY)
Brooks	Herrera Beutler	(Morelle)
(Fleischmann)	(Moore (UT))	Roybal-Allard
Cole (Lucas)	Johnson (TX)	(Correa)
DeFazio	(Pallone)	Ruppersberger
(Pallone)	Kildee (Pappas)	(Sarbanes)
Demings (Blunt	Kirkpatrick	Ryan (OH)
Rochester)	(Pallone)	(Correa)
Doyle, Michael	Lieu (Beyer)	Simpson
F. (Pallone)	Lowenthal	(Fulcher)
Duncan	(Beyer)	Sires (Pallone)
(Norman)	Moore (WI)	Stanton
Dunn (Cammack)	(Beyer)	(Huffman)
Frankel, Lois	Newman (Correa)	Steube
(Meng)	O'Halleran	(Franklin, C.
Gallego	(Pappas)	Scott)
(Cicilline)	Palazzo	Titus (Pallone)
Gosar (Weber	(Fleischmann)	Welch (Pallone)
(TX))	Pascarell	
	(Pallone)	

PATENTS FOR HUMANITY ACT OF 2022

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 5796) to amend title 35, United States Code, to establish a competition to award certificates that can be redeemed to accelerate certain matters at the Patent and Trademark Office, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 396, nays 24, not voting 11, as follows:

[Roll No. 511]

YEAS—396

Adams	Cicilline	Garamendi
Aderholt	Clark (MA)	Garbarino
Aguilar	Clarke (NY)	Garcia (CA)
Allen	Cleaver	Garcia (IL)
Allred	Cline	Garcia (TX)
Amodei	Clyburn	Gibbs
Armstrong	Cohen	Jimenez
Arrington	Cole	Golden
Auchincloss	Comer	Gomez
Axne	Connolly	Gonzales, Tony
Babin	Conway	Gonzalez (OH)
Bacon	Cooper	Gonzalez,
Baird	Correa	Vicente
Balderson	Costa	Good (VA)
Banks	Courtney	Gooden (TX)
Barr	Craig	Gottheimer
Barragán	Crawford	Granger
Bass	Crenshaw	Graves (LA)
Beatty	Crow	Graves (MO)
Bentz	Cuellar	Green (TN)
Bera	Curtis	Green, Al (TX)
Beyer	Davidson (KS)	Grijalva
Bice (OK)	Davis, Danny K.	Guest
Billakis	Davis, Rodney	Guthrie
Bishop (GA)	Dean	Harder (CA)
Blumenauer	DeFazio	Hartzler
Blunt Rochester	DeGette	Hayes
Boebert	DeLauro	Hern
Bonamici	DelBene	Herrell
Bost	Demings	Herrera Beutler
Bourdeaux	DeSaulnier	Higgins (NY)
Bowman	DesJarlais	Hill
Boyle, Brendan	Diaz-Balart	Himes
F.	Dingell	Hinson
Brady	Doggett	Hollingsworth
Brown (MD)	Doyle, Michael	Horsford
Brown (OH)	F.	Houlihan
Brownley	Duncan	Hoyer
Buchanan	Dunn	Hudson
Budd	Ellzey	Huffman
Burchett	Emmer	Huizenga
Burgess	Escobar	Issa
Bush	Eshoo	Jackson
Bustos	Españillat	Jackson Lee
Butterfield	Estes	Jacobs (CA)
Calvert	Evans	Jacobs (NY)
Cammack	Fallon	Jayapal
Carbajal	Feenstra	Jeffries
Cárdenas	Finstad	Johnson (GA)
Carey	Fischbach	Johnson (LA)
Carl	Fitzgerald	Johnson (OH)
Carson	Fitzpatrick	Johnson (SD)
Carter (GA)	Fleischmann	Johnson (TX)
Carter (LA)	Fletcher	Jones
Carter (TX)	Flood	Jordan
Cartwright	Flores	Joyce (OH)
Case	Foster	Joyce (PA)
Casten	Fox	Kahele
Castor (FL)	Frankel, Lois	Kaptur
Castro (TX)	Franklin, C.	Katko
Cawthorn	Scott	Keating
Chabot	Fulcher	Keller
Cherfilus-	Gaetz	Kelly (IL)
McCormick	Gallagher	Kelly (MS)
Chu	Gallego	Kelly (PA)

Khanna	Mrvan	Simpson
Kildee	Mullin	Sires
Kilmer	Murphy (FL)	Slotkin
Kim (CA)	Murphy (NC)	Smith (MO)
Kim (NJ)	Nadler	Smith (NE)
Kind	Napolitano	Smith (NJ)
Kirkpatrick	Neal	Smith (WA)
Krishnamoorthi	Neguse	Smucker
Kuster	Nehls	Soto
Kustoff	Newhouse	Spanberger
LaHood	Newman	Spartz
LaMalfa	Norcross	Speier
Lamb	O'Halleran	Stansbury
Lamborn	Ocasio-Cortez	Stanton
Langevin	Omar	Staubert
Larsen (WA)	Owens	Steel
Larson (CT)	Palazzo	Stefanik
Latta	Pallone	Steil
LaTurner	Palmer	Steube
Lawrence	Panetta	Stevens
Lawson (FL)	Pappas	Stewart
Lee (CA)	Pascarell	Strickland
Lee (NV)	Payne	Suoizzi
Leger Fernandez	Peltola	Swalwell
Lesko	Pence	Takano
Letlow	Perlmutter	Taylor
Levin (CA)	Perry	Thompson (CA)
Levin (MI)	Peters	Thompson (MS)
Lieu	Pfleger	Thompson (PA)
Lofgren	Phillips	Tiffany
Long	Pingree	Timmons
Loudermilk	Pocan	Titus
Lowenthal	Porter	Tlaib
Lucas	Pressley	Tonko
Luetkemeyer	Price (NC)	Torres (CA)
Luria	Quigley	Torres (NY)
Lynch	Raskin	Trahan
Mace	Reschenthaler	Trone
Malinowski	Rice (NY)	Turner
Malliotakis	Rice (SC)	Underwood
Maloney,	Rodgers (WA)	Upton
Carolyn B.	Rogers (AL)	Valadao
Maloney, Sean	Rogers (KY)	Van Drew
Mann	Rose	Van Duyn
Manning	Ross	Vargas
Massie	Rouzer	Veasey
Mast	Roybal-Allard	Velázquez
Matsui	Ruiz	Wagner
McBath	Ruppersberger	Walberg
McCarthy	Rush	Waltz
McCaul	Ryan (NY)	Wasserman
McClain	Ryan (OH)	Schultz
McCollum	Salazar	Waters
McGovern	Sánchez	Watson Coleman
McHenry	Sarbanes	Weber (TX)
McKinley	Scalise	Webster (FL)
McNerney	Scanlon	Welch
Meeks	Schakowsky	Westrup
Meng	Schiff	Westerman
Meuser	Schneider	Wexton
Mfume	Schrader	Wild
Miller (WV)	Schrier	Williams (GA)
Miller-Meeks	Schweikert	Williams (TX)
Moolenaar	Scott, Austin	Wilson (FL)
Mooney	Scott, David	Wittman
Moore (AL)	Sempolinski	Womack
Moore (UT)	Sessions	Yakym
Moore (WI)	Sewell	Zeldin
Morelle	Sherman	
Moulton	Sherrill	

NAYS—24

Biggs	Gohmert	Higgins (LA)
Bishop (NC)	Gosar	McClintock
Brooks	Greene (GA)	Miller (IL)
Buck	Griffith	Norman
Cloud	Grothman	Oberholte
Clyde	Harris	Rosendale
Davidson	Harshbarger	Roy
Donalds	Hice (GA)	Tenney

NOT VOTING—11

Bergman	Kinzinger	Scott (VA)
Bucshon	Meijer	Wilson (SC)
Cheney	Posey	Yarmuth
Ferguson	Rutherford	

□ 1627

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the Senate amendment was concurred in.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I regrettably missed rollcall votes 507, 508, 509, 510, and 511 today. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on these bills.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Baird (Bucshon)	Gottheimer	Pressley
Bass (Cicilline)	(Pappas)	(Neguse)
Beatty (Neguse)	Grijalva (Neguse)	Rice (NY)
Brooks	Herrera Beutler	(Morelle)
(Fleischmann)	(Moore (UT))	Roybal-Allard
Cole (Lucas)	Johnson (TX)	(Correa)
DeFazio	(Pallone)	Ruppersberger
(Pallone)	Kildee (Pappas)	(Sarbanes)
Demings (Blunt)	Kirkpatrick	Ryan (OH)
Rochester)	(Pallone)	(Correa)
Doyle, Michael	Lieu (Beyer)	Simpson
F. (Pallone)	Lowenthal	(Fulcher)
Duncan	(Beyer)	Sires (Pallone)
(Norman)	Moore (WI)	Stanton
Dunn (Cammack)	(Beyer)	(Huffman)
Frankel, Lois	Newman (Correa)	Steube
(Meng)	O'Halleran	(Franklin, C.
Gallego	(Pappas)	Scott)
(Cicilline)	Palazzo	Titus (Pallone)
Gosar (Weber	(Fleischmann)	Welch (Pallone)
(TX))	Pascarell	
	(Pallone)	

AWARDING THE CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL TO THE 52 HOSTAGES OF THE IRAN HOSTAGE CRISIS

(Mr. SUOZZI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SUOZZI. Mr. Speaker, I am joined in the gallery today by six former hostages and the families of 11 former hostages who are here to represent the 52 former hostages who were taken by Iranian student militants when they stormed the U.S. Embassy in Tehran on November 4, 1979.

I rise today in support of my bipartisan, bicameral legislation that would award the Congressional Gold Medal to the 52 hostages of the Iran hostage crisis who were released after 444 days of captivity over 40 years ago.

As it currently stands, almost 300 Members of this Chamber have pledged their support for this legislation—a showing of true bipartisanship in an oftentimes divided Chamber.

Despite mock firing squads, beatings, solitary confinement, lack of food, and psychological torture, these American hostages maintained their strength, resilience, and loyalty to their country. I was 17 years old in 1979, and I remember well—as many Americans do and many in this Chamber do—that the Iran hostage crisis was a painful time in our history. But that pain cannot stop us from recognizing the true pain and sacrifice by these special Americans.

On behalf of the entire Congress, I give special thanks to Brock Pierce, the chairman of Commission 52, and Ezra Friedlander, the project manager, for helping gather support for this bill. It is a true public service.

Mr. Speaker, I urge swift passage of this bill as soon as it is passed in the Senate.

Mr. Speaker, let's give a round of applause to these folks who have joined us here today.

RECOGNIZING THE WINKLER GALLERY

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Winkler Gallery and congratulate them on their 20th anniversary.

Since its creation in 2003, the Winkler Gallery and Art Education Center has provided a place for artists in DuBois, Pennsylvania, to create art in many different forms.

The Winkler Gallery originally began as a fine art collaborative named after the famed watercolor artist Perry Winkler. Today, the Winkler Gallery features more than 20 different artists in their collection and serves as a place for locals to come learn about the different types of art available at the gallery.

The Winkler Gallery remains a staple in our community and currently serves as the host to Pennsylvania-15 high school art students who participate in the annual Congressional Art Competition. The gallery is also home to a notable exhibit, the Children's Carousel. The exhibit was originally built in London in 1896 and is the world's most complete and original English carousel.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the Winkler Gallery on 20 years of being a home to the fine art and culture available in northern Pennsylvania. Their art brings even more beauty to a naturally beautiful place in our region.

HONORING DR. DOUGLAS NECKERS

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a one-of-a-kind, remarkable man and consummate researcher and teacher, Dr. Douglas Neckers of northwest Ohio, who passed away just last week at the age of 84.

Dr. Neckers had an accomplished career as a photochemical scientist. He was a true Renaissance man: a lover of history, the arts, and the written word. He shared his wisdom in the opinion pages of newspapers across our State.

Doug served as the head of Bowling Green State University's chemistry department, founded its Center for Photochemical Sciences, and was a pioneer of 3D printing technologies and so many successful companies that were born from that. Even in later years, he raised awareness and kept learning about topics such as the mindset of Nazi scientists who invented chemical weapons during World War II. He was seeking always to build understanding and to promote and uplift humankind.

When thinking of Dr. Neckers, I call to mind the words of Mahatma Gandhi: Strength does not come from physical capacity. It comes from an indomitable will.

An indomitable will coursed through every fiber of Doug's spirit. He was a force of nature in every one of his days.

Today, as we mourn Doug's passing, may his family and we find comfort in the knowledge that his legacy lives on in all who knew him: every institution that he built, every student he influenced, and every person blessed to call him friend.

REMEMBERING THE SAUDI ATTACK ON NAVAL AIR STATION PENSACOLA

(Mr. GAETZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GAETZ. Mr. Speaker, 3 years ago today, a Saudi Air Force officer with ties to al-Qaida attacked Naval Air Station Pensacola resulting in the deaths of Ensign Joshua Kaleb, Airman Apprentice Cameron Walters, and Airman Mohammed Haitham; this also included the injury of eight others, including brave sheriff's deputies and sailors.

Saudi Arabia had the responsibility to screen and monitor their officers, and they failed. The family members who lost their loved ones live with this pain every day, and the Saudi Government's initial promise made directly to me that they would compensate the grieving families has resulted in nothing.

For this reason, I am introducing the Saudi Arabia December 6, 2019, Anti-Terror and Accountability Act.

This bill would prohibit the DOD from funding any Saudi-led proxy wars and would end the export of weapons and logistical services to Saudi Arabia. This legislation would halt the military officer exchange programs with Saudi Arabia. It would also set aside \$10 million within the state-sponsored terrorism fund so that the victims would be able to be compensated.

The legislation is budget neutral as it draws from a reallocation from funds that would otherwise go to a war in Ukraine.

It is time that we demonstrate national solidarity on the anniversary of this terrorist attack. We should send Saudi Arabia a message, not more weapons.

DISGRACEFUL RHETORIC

(Mr. PAYNE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, unfortunately, to address the horrible anti-American comments made by Donald Trump.

Recently, the prominent Republican posted that it was time to terminate the Constitution. The Constitution is the foundation of our country and the backbone of our democracy. It is a brilliant document that continues to inspire democratic governments worldwide.

If a Democrat or I had made these comments, the person would be widely condemned and denied any attempt to run for office. But the Republicans do the opposite. They give weak denunciations of the comments—if any at all. But they refuse to reject Trump in public.

He rejects our institution, fights to deny our elections, and dines with racists. Yet, this is the type of person the Republicans believe to be a viable candidate for our highest office.

It is a disgrace and a national embarrassment.

CONGRATULATING KATE HASLAM

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Kate Haslam for her placement on "Georgia Trend's" annual 40 Under 40 list.

Kate is a Savannah-based certified public accountant working as an audit principal for Hancock Askew & Company.

A graduate of the University of Georgia, Kate inherited her ambitious spirit from her mother who competed in two sports at the college level while pursuing several graduate degrees—the same drive that allows her to build a high-level career in accounting while raising two young kids at home.

Kate is not only a leader in her workplace, but also a leader in the broader Savannah community. She was a 2021 graduate of Leadership Savannah, an organization dedicated to instilling good leadership qualities in managers from a diverse cross section of industries in the Savannah area.

On top of all this, Kate still finds time to give back to her community. She participates regularly in volunteer services for the families of fallen first responders as well as for United Way and the March of Dimes.

I am proud that so many young people in our district are as impressive as Kate is, and I am glad that Georgia Trends recognizes these accomplishments, too.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Kate.

RECOGNIZING DISTRICT ATTORNEY NANCY O'MALLEY

(Mr. SWALWELL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SWALWELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize District Attorney Nancy O'Malley who is retiring after serving as the chief law enforcement officer in Alameda County for 13 years.

Nancy's career began as a rape crisis counselor volunteer where she witnessed firsthand the way in which victims of crime were disregarded or disrespected by the justice system. It inspired her to go into law enforcement and rise to the rank of chief assistant district attorney.

She has now served the county for 37 years and has developed a national reputation for excellence as the county's first elected female district attorney.

She also created the one-stop shop idea of a family justice center replicated across the country providing legal, health, housing, psychological, and other support services. She has also written and sponsored 60 bills that have become law in California helping people with disabilities access the courts, as well as making sure that victims of crime have their day in court, too.

Nancy also founded the Human Exploitation and Trafficking Unit, or HEAT, which has led the Nation in response to human trafficking.

Furthermore, I am fortunate for Nancy's guidance as my former boss, mentor, friend, and even officiant at my wedding. As Nancy's service to the office comes to an end next year, her work to serve justice will go on.

I congratulate Nancy and wish her and her husband, John, a happy retirement.

ONE FINE TEXAN: LOUIE GOHMERT

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, the House is losing many fine Members at the end of this session, and I wish them all well. There is one retiring Member I want to say a few words about today.

That Member is my good friend, LOUIE GOHMERT.

LOUIE and I came to Congress in the 109th in the year 2005 in a relatively small class. But that class had five fine Texans, three of whom have already retired.

LOUIE GOHMERT has been a great friend and an extremely dedicated patriot and Representative. He has been actually a great friend to all people in this body. He is kind and gentle. He is very serious also about the work that is done here.

I know he has often been frustrated by the actions of both the House and Senate, but he has continued to work diligently to make our country and, indeed, the entire world better.

The highest compliment I think I can pay him is that he is a good man who has always sought to do good.

Our country has been blessed by LOUIE GOHMERT throughout his life, and I am sure he will continue to do good.

Mr. Speaker, I will miss LOUIE, but will pray that God will continue to bless him, Kathy, and his daughters.

□ 1645

2022 CALIFORNIA FIRE CHIEF OF THE YEAR BRIAN FENNESSY

(Ms. PORTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Orange County Fire Authority Chief Brian Fennessy for receiving the 2022 California Fire Chief of the Year award.

As California continues to see worsening fire seasons, Orange County families are fortunate to have a leader like Chief Fennessy, who is dedicated to making our communities safer.

Since joining the Orange County Fire Authority in 2018, Chief Fennessy has placed a strong focus on community outreach, fire mitigation, and disaster preparedness. He has also equipped his firefighters with the tools and training that they need to be safe and to keep us safe.

I was honored to have Chief Fennessy join me for a townhall where we discussed disaster preparedness measures and ways to stay safe from wildfires.

I congratulate Chief Fennessy on this well-deserved recognition and look forward to continuing to work with him and the wonderful Orange County Fire Authority team.

RECOGNIZING DEVARJAYE "DJ" DANIEL

(Mr. NEHLS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. NEHLS. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize a young man from Houston, Texas, who, as long as he can remember, wanted to be a police officer.

DJ Daniel was diagnosed with terminal brain cancer and spine cancer when he was just 8 years old and has undergone 11 brain surgeries. He has spent half of his life battling cancer.

I cannot think of a braver young man than DJ. Given 5 months to live, he made it his mission to be sworn in by 100 law enforcement agencies. Here it is, 3 years later, and he has been sworn in by 743 police departments across the country.

DJ has made a tremendous impact on many across the Nation and is a shining example of what makes Texas so great.

Anyone who has followed DJ's story will be the first to say how he embodies the qualities we look for in law enforcement. Strength, courage, resilience, and selflessness are all traits I have heard describing DJ.

May God bless him and his family.

FINALIZING FISCAL YEAR 2023 APPROPRIATIONS

(Mr. MRVAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MRVAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to encourage all of my colleagues to continue the work with all urgency to finalize the pending fiscal year 2023 appropriations measures.

Notably, for Indiana's First Congressional District, I would highlight the vital importance of the community-funded projects included in these meas-

ures that will grow the northwest economy. For example, I am grateful for the inclusion of specific funds that will support economic development at the Michigan City Harbor, construction for improvements to Central Avenue in Portage, and the expansion of cargo operations at the Gary/Chicago International Airport.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to continue to prioritize completing this necessary work so that we can support economic growth and job creation in northwest Indiana and communities throughout our Nation.

SBA CYBER AWARENESS ACT

(Mrs. KIM of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. KIM of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to strongly support H.R. 3462, the SBA Cyber Awareness Act, which I introduced with Representative JASON CROW to improve cybersecurity and transparency at the Small Business Administration.

The SBA provided a record number of services during the COVID-19 pandemic to provide a lifeline to small businesses in need. But with that, the SBA also saw issues with their IT capabilities being able to keep up and safely store applicants' personal information.

We must ensure entrepreneurs can safely access resources available to them and have confidence that the SBA has the tools to keep their information safe from cyberattacks. Our bill will do exactly that.

Additionally, H.R. 3462 safeguards our supply chain by protecting SBA's IT components from the CCP's malign influence.

Mr. Speaker, I thank all of my colleagues who helped to pass this bill.

REMOVING MILITARY VACCINE MANDATE

(Mr. MASSIE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MASSIE. Mr. Speaker, thousands of members of the military have terminated their service for our country because of the COVID military vaccine mandate.

Thousands more have chosen early retirement, and thousands have not enlisted. Recruitment is down. Our national security is suffering because of this.

It is time to treat the men and women of our military who have signed up and pledged their lives to defend this country with the respect they deserve. It is time to get rid of the COVID vaccine mandate for the military.

My bill, H.R. 3860, would do that. I introduced it in June 2021. Since then, we have garnered over 90 cosponsors for that bill.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues, as they consider the language of the Na-

tional Defense Authorization Act this week, to include the language of H.R. 3860 to protect the brave men and women of our military.

PREVENTING COMMUNICATION DURING PROTESTS IN CHINA

(Mr. GROTHMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to address the problems in China, the protests in China, and the degree to which perhaps the largest American corporation, Apple corporation, out of sheer greed, is weighing in and preventing protesters from communicating with each other.

Their CEO, Tim Cook, who is making over \$90 million a year, is right now preventing AirDrops from being made between different protesters. Without communicating with each other, those protests will not succeed.

China right now has one of the most repressive regimes in the world, atheistic totalitarianism. It has been the greatest threat to freedom in this country for the last 100 years.

It is disappointing, though perhaps not surprising, that American corporations, the wealthiest country in the world, cannot resist shutting down free speech in China to make a few more dollars.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Congress to act and do something with these large corporations that, in America as well, have a monopoly on free speech, a monopoly on communication, and are using it to support atheistic totalitarianism.

EFFECTIVE FOREST MANAGEMENT

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, it is raining in California, finally.

I know that song from the 1970s would say otherwise, but we are seeing some relief from the drought. It is partially man-made, partially government-made, by letting all of our water run to the ocean instead of to farms and to people. That said, our fire season is also over for a while in most of the State.

Let me just remind you: This map here is just a portion of northern California. This half of this fire area is about 1 million acres from last year called the Dixie fire. Many other fires in just the last 4 years represent about 2 million acres, just in one section of one State.

This calls out the need—even though it is the off-season, and we have forgotten about the fire now because it is raining—to have forest management that is actually effective.

We need the U.S. Forest Service to take this issue head-on instead of more talk, more mealy-mouth, more plans, treating maybe 1 million acres a year,

2 million acres per year, when the Forest Service has under its charge 200 million acres.

We need to bring in the private sector and everybody we can to get ahead on forest thinning and forest management so we don't keep burning our communities down and causing all the air pollution, water quality issues, loss of wildlife. Meanwhile, we are the second-leading importer of lumber in the world.

What are we doing here? It is time for action.

AMERICAN HOSTAGES IN RUSSIA

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about the horrible and despicable plight of Brittney Griner and Paul Whelan among other hostages and United States citizens held around the world in this particular situation by a despot who wants to use Brittney as a pawn.

This wonderful young woman, 6 feet 9 inches, an Olympian, is now being taken to a labor camp with vicious conditions, food that is disgraceful, conditions that are disgraceful. It is only because of the selfish despot that wants to eliminate democracy, live in an oppressive society, and use her as a vicious pawn.

I warn Americans: When a former President suggests they want to suspend the Constitution, watch Iran that is killing people in the street simply because they want freedom and democracy, and watch Russia every day.

It has been said, oh, you made a highlight or a star out of Brittney Griner. No. It was the outcry of her family and community that said: We just want her home. We want Paul Whelan, a veteran, home.

Yet, this vicious and vile leader thinks that he has something he can dangle in front of our eyes.

I demand that we get strong-handed with him. This young woman needs to be brought home to her family, and it is a disgrace that we cannot get her home.

DACA

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KAHELE). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about the hundreds—no, thousands of DACA recipients and Dreamers who inspire us every day with their art, resiliency, and strength.

Their stories of success, hope, and dreams are the stories of our country and those who truly believe in the American Dream.

Last week, I went to the Kennedy Center, one of the world's most pres-

tigious performing arts venues, here in this very city, to see the Ballet Hispanico.

There, I saw Hugo Pizano Orozco, an artist, a dancer, and a Dreamer. He is a constituent of mine from Espanola, New Mexico.

Hugo and his family are originally from Guanajuato, Mexico. He came to the United States before he was 2 years old.

After moving from Mexico to Espanola, he fell in love with the art that is dance. He attended the New Mexico School for the Arts, which is a very prestigious school in New Mexico dedicated to the arts.

But like many others, his future remained uncertain because of his immigration status. As a senior, he didn't know if his DACA status would be granted.

Once it was finally approved, though, he applied and was accepted to Juilliard, one of the world's most prestigious performing arts schools. Today, he is a renowned dancer and on tour with Ballet Hispanico.

I have a picture of him here because he does inspire with his art form. He inspires me. He soars across the dance floor at the Kennedy Center.

I was moved, so I asked him for his permission to highlight his story, his inspiration to our community and to America of what our Dreamers can do when we let them live their dream, when we let them accomplish what they are capable of doing in our beautiful country.

His story reminds us of the inspiring stories of thousands of Dreamers across our country. His family brought him to the United States in search of a better life, and he found his American Dream.

His story reflects the best of us and what the American Dream is truly about: hopes and dreams for a better future. Like so many others, his story inspires me, gives me hope, and is why I stand here today.

He soars from New Mexico and graces America with his stunning performances, but we find Dreamers in every State and every community.

I want to echo his words today. He said: "Don't think because you are from a small town in New Mexico, you can't go out there and do the thing you want to do."

We need to remember that small places can do big things. Yes, small places can do big things.

□ 1700

Our Dreamers come from all walks of life—small towns, big cities, the rural areas, suburbia, everywhere. They believe they could do more, and with DACA they have done more.

Like Cindy Nava, a fellow New Mexican who came from Chihuahua, Mexico, seeking a better life. Now, as a 35-year-old, she is actually the first-ever DACA recipient to achieve a presidential appointment to work in the Biden administration as a senior policy advisor to the U.S. Secretary of Housing and

Urban Development. She now works for Marcia Fudge.

Hugo and Cindy are two of the more than 5,000 DACA recipients who make New Mexico a more vibrant place to live.

None of this would have been possible if we didn't have DACA. With the recent court rulings, however, DACA is in immediate danger. We need our Senate Republican colleagues to rise to the moment.

We passed out of this House in the spring of 2021 the American Dream and Promise Act. We now need the Senate to act and work with us to pass bipartisan legislation before the end of the year because it is now or never for our Dreamers.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. GARCIA).

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise to call upon our colleagues in the Senate to protect DACA recipients before the end of this Congress.

Six years old, Madam Speaker. Six years old. That is the average age recipients of DACA were when they first entered the U.S. through no fault of their own.

Known as Dreamers, these young people have served in our military, attended our schools, and worked in our communities. They have grown up here, eagerly contributing to our neighborhoods and the diversity that makes America great. They are Americans in their heart and their soul and in their minds because this is the only country that they have known.

Many of them are now educated doctors, trusted lawyers, committed schoolteachers, and essential workers. In fact, more than 200,000 of them worked as essential workers during the pandemic keeping us safe, keeping us healthy. Now, because of right-wing attacks on our communities' all-stars, their futures are uncertain.

Madam Speaker, Dreamers need action, and they need it now.

In my home State of Texas, nearly 100,000 Dreamers are at risk of facing deportation, and 30,000 of them live in my hometown of Houston.

They are not strangers; they are not Martians coming in from some alien nation. We are talking about our friends, our neighbors, people we go to church with, people we buy groceries with, people that are just down the street, and they are also part of our families.

For our community, it is now or never. The Senate must put Dreamers over the political tactics of fear and hate. It is simple: we need to put people over politics. We need to put Dreamers over rhetoric. The time is now.

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Madam Speaker, I thank Representative GARCIA. We know that Americans want DACA to be codified. They want our Dreamers to live here.

Indeed, in the United States we know that a bipartisan poll conducted in October 2022 found overwhelming support,

Democrats, Independents, and Republicans all support this. Democrats support it at 93 percent, Independents at 75 percent, and our Republican neighbors, they also support it at 71 percent.

This needs to happen. This needs to happen for us to truly live up to the promise that we could be.

The Congressional Hispanic Caucus is holding this Special Order hour. I welcome all of my colleagues who have come to speak before us here today.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. RUIZ), the chair of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, who has come with his two daughters, to share with us his thoughts on Dreamers.

Mr. RUIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today as chair of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, as a father of these two beautiful daughters, Sky and Sage, to call on the Senate to act now for Dreamers.

This October, the Fifth Circuit Court ruled that the DACA program is unlawful and set the stage for this incredibly successful and popular program to be struck down by the conservative courts in Texas.

If Congress does not act by the end of this year, the future of thousands of Dreamers will be on the line.

Dreamers like Juan Vasquez from my district—in fact, from Mecca—who, as a senior in high school, was detained by ICE while working in the fields as a farmworker with his parents to help them pay the bills.

After taking him under my wing, as a pre-med student Juan graduated top of his class from UC Berkeley and finished top of his class at UC San Francisco School of Medicine. Now he saves lives. He saves American lives. He saves fathers, mothers, children, daughters, sons, and grandparents every day as an emergency medicine resident in New York City. I think I had some influence, being an emergency physician myself and mentoring him in that path.

If DACA ends, Juan and hundreds of thousands of others will lose their jobs—impacting labor market sectors already experiencing shortages, such as healthcare, education, service industries, food production, and more.

If DACA ends, our economy would lose more than a quarter of a trillion in lost GDP over the next decade. If DACA ends, prices will go up.

If DACA ends, we will see dire and insurmountable ripple effects across our communities and local economies.

For the sake of doing what is right and good and just, and for the sake of our economy and for the hundreds of thousands of Dreamers who call our Nation home and have known no other home, I call on the Senate Republicans to join in good-faith negotiations to find a permanent solution for Dreamers based on the House-passed American Dream and Promise Act. Use it as the framework.

Madam Speaker, I urge every Member of this body, Republicans and

Democrats, to join the Congressional Hispanic Caucus in advocating for a bipartisan DACA deal to be included in the end-of-year omnibus package.

We absolutely must deliver peace of mind for Dreamers and their families. Keep their families together and create opportunity for our economy. The time to act is now. The time of urgency is now.

Madam Speaker, I thank the chairwoman for her leadership for being vice chair of communications for the Congressional Hispanic Caucus because your voice is powerful, your voice carries on, your voice is a voice of true leadership that will continue and be generational.

I appreciate this Special Hour to advocate for our Dreamers and to protect DACA.

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Madam Speaker, I thank Representative RUIZ for bringing Sky and Sage to the floor of the House today, because as we look at these beautiful, intelligent, curious children—and curious is one of the best things to be, you know, because that means you are curious about the world around you—they are the age of many of our DACA recipients who came with their parents. Their parents made the choice and the children came with them. This is the only home many of the DACA recipients have ever known.

What have they done in this home?

They have brought so many of us joy. They have helped make our schools vibrant. They are caring for our children, for your children, as doctors, teachers, nurses, and accountants. They are in all walks of life. Some of them choose to go into accountancy.

We have the stories here, numerous, from every State and every district, of those who chose to apply for DACA protections.

Right now we know that because of the Fifth Circuit decision that declared DACA unlawful, that these hundreds of young Dreamers and families are afraid for their futures. We must act.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA).

Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, if I may, I just want to say that the Dreamer issue is not about immigrants, it is about America.

Dreamers are the perfect kind of immigrant that you want in this country. They follow the law. They pay taxes. They are either gainfully employed or have to be studying in order to qualify as a Dreamer under the DACA program.

Now, 70 to 80 percent of all Americas, Democrats and Republicans, support a pathway to citizenship for Dreamers. They are our friends. They are our neighbors, firefighters, police officers, and they also serve in the military.

Here is a poster of one of my constituents, Jose Angel Garibay. He was the first servicemember from Orange County to make the ultimate sacrifice for America after 9/11 in Iraq. He died as a Dreamer, as a noncitizen.

Later on, this body saw it appropriate to give him U.S. citizenship posthumously.

Jose shouldn't have waited until after he passed away to become a U.S. citizen because he made the ultimate sacrifice for his new country—the only country he knew, the United States of America.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to inform you that I represent probably the largest number of Dreamers in the country: Orange County, California. Orange County, the county that Ronald Reagan used to say was the place that good Republicans would go to die.

Not very long ago, my daughter came home with two of her very good friends, and they were both very scared and crying. They said: We are Dreamers. Are we going to be deported? What do we do?

Good, sweet, young ladies—students. I said: You keep studying hard. You keep working hard. You keep following the law. You keep being a good person and let us work on legislation in Washington.

Today, my simple ask from the Senate is: Do the right thing. Stop treating Dreamers as political footballs, you kick them whenever it is appropriate.

I ask the Senate to please pass the Dreamer legislation and give those 2 million Dreamers the opportunity to earn—not to be given—but to earn a pathway to the American Dream.

Again, 70 to 80 percent of Americans agree with this concept. Let's do our job. Let's continue to keep America as the greatest country in the world.

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for bringing us the story of such bravery and sacrifice, because across this country Dreamers are participating in every single aspect of our lives, whether it be defending our country in the United States or abroad.

They are firefighters. I have a story here of an amazing firefighter who is from Sacramento, California, and was one of the first Dreamers who became a firefighter. He has now moved on and is pursuing additional studies so that he can pursue a career in health to serve as a PA.

□ 1715

We know that in so many of our areas, we don't have enough doctors and nurses and PAs and nurse practitioners and, yet, this Dreamer is engaged in that very area of study.

Over and over again, if we deny the Dreamers their ability to continue to contribute to our country, we will suffer, whether that be in the area of health, as we just heard from one of our speakers, from our chair, or the area of the arts, or as the numerous teachers, the numerous Dreamers have chosen as their area of expertise and their way of giving back to teach our youngest.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. GARCÍA) to share with us what he knows is happening in Illinois with the numerous Dreamers that live in both his city and in his State.

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today with fellow members of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus because we are running out of time to save the DACA program. We can save the program through congressional action in the waning days of this Congress.

Since 2012, DACA has created a glimpse of hope. DACA provides temporary legal status to thousands of people who know no other country than ours in the United States. They are our teachers, our nurses, our firefighters, our friends, our neighbors, and our loved ones.

Let's be clear: 75 percent of the American people support DACA. We know it strengthens our economy and makes us a better country, and both Republicans and Democrats agree.

Still, the program has faced multiple court challenges, and if we don't do something to save it, the program will end.

We need to save the DACA program, not only because it grows our economy, but because it is simply the right thing to do.

Let me tell Yesenia's story.

When it became time for a driver's license in high school, Yesenia's teacher forced her to provide a Social Security card, even though he knew Yesenia was undocumented and did not plan to get a license and had no real need to bring a Social Security card to class.

When Yesenia was unable to produce a Social Security card, a classmate mocked her saying, "she can't bring it because she's illegal." Yesenia nearly broke down in tears.

Thanks to DACA, Yesenia was afforded a stability she has never known, no longer carrying the fear of being deported or separated from her family.

Or think about Elizeth. She would wake up at 3:30 a.m. every day to prepare tamales and sell them before hurrying to school. She did this through elementary and middle school.

Classmates belittled Elizeth, calling her "la tamalera." Like Yesenia, Elizeth applied for DACA when the program was created. Eventually, Elizeth saved enough by selling tamales to pay her way through college. This is what they do. This is who they are.

Both Elizeth and Yesenia are my constituents; and to my colleagues in the Senate, DACA recipients are your constituents too.

Every DACA recipient has a story of homes lost and new homes found, stories of growing up, stories of pain and perseverance that demand action.

Ending DACA will shatter the lives of nearly 2 million people in our country brought here as children; and it will hurt their families as well. It will separate families and tear communities apart.

The stakes could not be higher. The end of DACA would uproot the lives of 600,000 DACA recipients, in addition to the more than 1.3 million migrants eligible for the program.

Aside from the fact that DACA recipients pay almost \$10 billion in taxes

each year; aside from the fact that more than 200,000 DACA recipients across the country stepped up for us as frontline workers during the pandemic; our obligation to save DACA, above all else, is a moral one. It is about who we are as a country.

The House has done its job. We passed the American Dream and Promise Act, and now we need the Senate to act on it. It is time to step up, save DACA, and codify it through congressional action.

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. I thank the gentleman for sharing the economic impacts of DACA recipients because we need to highlight that; that any opposition to the American Dream and Promise Act is not based on the benefits it brings to our country because the economic benefits are amazing, so I appreciate the fact that the gentleman raised it.

The gentleman said how much taxes are paid. Households with DACA recipients pay \$5.6 billion in Federal taxes and \$3.1 billion in State and local taxes every single year. They create lots of after-tax income that leads to economic activity in the communities that they come from.

In fact, the importance of DACA and our Dreamers is so great that on October 20, 80 major businesses and trade associations wrote to congressional leaders in support of a bipartisan American Dream and Promise Act. The letter was signed by, among others, the National Association of Manufacturers, the National Retail Federation, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Microsoft, Amazon, and many, many more because we know that Dreamers are essential to our economy.

What would happen if we let DACA die? If we let DACA die, an average of 1,000 Dreamers will lose their jobs each week in labor markets already experiencing shortages, such as healthcare, education, service industries, food production, and more because they would lose their jobs as their ability to renew would disappear. So every week, we would lose that.

It is like a drum, a drum, a drumbeat toward financial trouble when we already need to address the need for more workers in our country. We would lose the benefit that they develop for our economy; \$400 billion in economic benefit if we pass the American Dream and Promise Act, because we need to say, we are not just trying to save DACA, we actually want DACA to end because we are going to replace with the American Dream and Promise Act. We are looking for the American Dream and Promise Act because that ends DACA the way it should; not by death to a core that doesn't understand the benefit of this, but to the codification to give our Dreamers the path to citizenship they deserve.

That is why we are calling upon the Senate. We are asking to have—all of the Democrat Senators presently support the American Dream and Promise Act. So what we are looking for is 10

Republican Senators to join with the Chamber of Commerce, to join with the trade associations, to join with the people across this country, to join with their own constituents, with their own constituents.

I think we need to remember the amount of Republicans who supported the Dream and Promise Act in the 1970s. It is what our constituents want us to do. It is what the Senate constituents want them to do, from whatever State you are in.

We must ask the Senate to take action now. Let's codify this. Let's not punt down the road any more times. Let's actually pass the American Dream and Promise Act. Everybody wants it because we know without it, the consequences are dire.

I also want to remind everybody that many of these Dreamers are in mixed-status households, as we say. The Dreamers live with their children, if they are old enough, who are citizens; they live with spouses who may be citizens and legal residents; and they provide for the families at the same time that they are providing for our communities. They are providing for their families.

They come from many, many countries, not just Latin American countries. If you will notice up here, I cannot read it, but Koreans—we have many, many DACA recipients who speak Korean.

We have DACA recipients who speak all of the different languages of our world because they come from the many countries of our world to the United States. They have been brought here; and, once here, we have to remember the Dream and Promise Act has been introduced time and time again.

The Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, DACA, was put in place as a placeholder so that we could pass the American Dream and Promise Act. The placeholder is calling upon us now to act. The placeholder must be replaced with the American Dream and Promise Act so that our children, those who will lead us up and will lead great lives in our community can find that path to citizenship.

So that is what we are asking our colleagues in the Senate to do. We sent you this bill months and months ago. You saw this bill in the 115th, 116th, and 117th Congress, and now it is time to pass it; now or never because we cannot wait. We cannot wait for the courts to act because Congress' duty is to act. Our duty is to see a problem and take action to correct it.

In Jeremiah 29:11 God's plan for us is not to suffer, but to have prosperity, hope, and a future. Our job in Congress is to create that prosperity, hope, and a future. This bill, the American Dream and Promise Act, has accomplished that plan to create prosperity, hope, and a future for those who have come and lived in our communities from the youngest of age. So, we call upon the Senate to act.

On behalf of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, I am proud to stand with my colleagues who stood here and spoke in favor of passing the American Dream and Promise Act because, make no mistake: The DACA program is the result of the failure of Congress to live up to its obligation to create that prosperity, hope, and a future.

We need the DACA kids to continue their education. We need those who have been in this country from a very young age to be able to assert and have the protections of those who are presently enrolled in DACA.

Dreamers have been raised and educated here. They work in our communities. They raise their families. They attend our colleges. They serve in our military. They die for the country and the home that they have known.

We now ask Congress, we ask the Senate Republicans to hear those dreams and to pass the American Dream and Promise Act in whatever vehicle it must be. We urge them to consider including it in the omnibus, to include it in the NDAA, but to pass it.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BOWMAN). Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New Mexico?

There was no objection.

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the 600,000 DACA recipients who are terrified that a forthcoming court ruling will force them to leave the only country they've lived in and loved.

These young men and women came to the U.S. as newborns and small children. They've attended American schools, served in the U.S. military, and they contribute their multitude of talents to our nation's economy every day.

Despite having built their lives here, DACA recipients live with fear that their legal status will be ripped away from them by a disastrous court decision. They've lived with this uncertainty for over a decade, and they deserve a permanent solution.

I'm proud to have voted for the Dream Act which offers a pathway to citizenship for Dreamers. The legislation passed the House with a bipartisan vote last year and is supported by the faith community, business leaders, law enforcement, and over two-thirds of the American people.

Despite being supported by a large majority of Americans, Senate Republicans have repeatedly blocked the Dream Act, forcing the lives of Dreamers to remain in limbo. This is unacceptable. Denying basic protections to these brave young men and women dishonors our proud heritage as a nation of immigrants.

Dreamers are Americans in all but name. They've been subjected to the cruelty of our broken immigration system for far too long, and it's time for Congress to live up to our promise to protect the Dreamers so that they

can continue to strengthen and enrich our Nation.

□ 1730

TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSMAN LOUIE GOHMERT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. WEBER) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is my absolute honor and privilege to be here tonight to honor one of our very own, one of our very own Texans, who has been here for 18 years. I am calling this the Louie Gohmert Special Order hour. But when you realize how many hours he has been up here, probably more than anybody else we know, it doesn't seem to be a fitting title.

There is no better way to honor my good friend, LOUIE GOHMERT. If you see the picture over here, he has been on FOX News. He is a great drinker of Dr. Pepper, Peanut M&M's, those are some of the things that LOUIE GOHMERT is known for.

I had a friend the other day that said: Louie can be pushy and obstinate.

I said: Really?

My friend said: Yeah, but he is actually the opposite now; he is obstinate and pushy.

I tell you what, LOUIE GOHMERT speaks his mind. He comes to this floor and says a lot of things, quite frankly, that we are thinking but a lot of people are not gutsy enough to say it.

He has been a true patriot. He is a champion for Texas' First Congressional District, and he is a fighter for everyone's freedoms. We are going to miss him.

Mr. Speaker, can I impose upon the gentleman (Mr. GOHMERT) to come down to the front?

He has had quite a distinguished career since before he got into Congress, when he got, what I like to say, demoted to Congress.

Ronald Reagan once famously said in a campaign: "I will not make age an issue of this campaign. I am not going to exploit for political purposes my opponent's youth and inexperience."

Talking about youth, LOUIE doesn't look like he is 69, does he? But I remember when he did.

I tell you what, he is a great, great friend of ours. Y'all didn't know this was going to be a roast, right? He has been a great, great friend of ours.

Before I ever knew him, I saw him on FOX News much of the time, and I always looked up to him. I knew that he was a man of conviction, that he was a Christian, and that he spoke the truth the way it was. I really looked up to him.

When I came to Congress, I kind of confided in him. I said: LOUIE, I am beginning to have dreams. I keep seeing talking crickets, talking dogs, talking birds, talking cats, and even talking

donkeys and elephants. What is wrong with me? Do you think Congress is pressuring me?

He said: No, no, you are just having Disney spells.

Come on, that was funny, guys.

LOUIE has always had a great sense of humor. He has always been someone who was so wry and so right on with things. I always love having a conversation with him.

LOUIE, we appreciate you. I cannot tell you how much we appreciate you and what you have tried to do for Texas, by the way. I hope tonight will show through a little bit and show a lot of our appreciation for you.

You have never backed down from a fight for our freedoms.

You have never backed down from fighting for our democracy.

You have never backed down because sometimes the truth is hard to hear, even when you sent the media into a frenzy, quite a few times.

I always admired that about you. To say that you are going to leave big shoes is an understatement.

Who else in the history—we might want to look this up, Mr. Speaker. Who else in the history of this House has spent 17,340 minutes, 289 hours, and 12 days speaking on the House floor? Who else has done that? Probably nobody but our famous LOUIE GOHMERT.

LOUIE, you are going to leave a legacy of fighting tirelessly for what is good and right for the people you represent, not just in Texas, but in this country, religious freedom not being the least of those. We appreciate that about you.

You have not only fought tirelessly for the people you represent, but you have fought for every single conservative. There are a lot of people who will never be able to vote for LOUIE GOHMERT, but he voted for them every day, and we appreciate that about you, LOUIE.

When you leave Congress, you will be known for unapologetically fighting for and leading the conservative movement. Nobody has represented the conservative movement better than you have, LOUIE GOHMERT. I want to tell you, with your stance for our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and for Christian values, you leave some really big boots to fill.

Thank you for all your hard work. We have a lot of friends here that want to say good things about you. They won't be as rough on you as I was, probably.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ROY).

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Texas for yielding.

I am proud to be here on the floor with my friend from Texas. He is someone that I have looked up to for a very long time. And to have served with him for the last 2 terms, for the last 4 years, has been an honor. I wouldn't be in Congress but for his support.

My parents live just down the road from Pittsburg where he grew up; they

live in Mount Pleasant, Texas. That is actually where I first got to meet Congressman GOHMERT. Now, to sit and serve in this body alongside of him, is truly an honor.

The poster talks about the Gohmert hour. We used to make our interns watch the Gohmert hour so they could learn from the great LOUIE GOHMERT.

One of our favorite moments was when he spent 30 minutes hammering the Architect of the Capitol because they told him not to grill his ribs on his office balcony. That was one of the greatest speeches delivered on the floor of the House, no doubt.

We already talked about 17,000 minutes, or whatever the number was, 12 days. I took it to heart watching the passion of Congressman GOHMERT coming to the floor of the House and using this floor to speak to the people and using this floor to be able to communicate why we are here. We ought to do it more often. In fact, we ought to have debate and engagement with our colleagues on the other side of the aisle.

I was inspired by Congressman GOHMERT to use this privilege, to use this time that we are given to be able to be the voice for the people who send us to Washington. That is what Congressman GOHMERT has done. He has been a voice for the people of East Texas. He has represented them well. He is truly one of the most honest, honorable, and decent public servants that I have ever known.

In fact, the reason that he is leaving this body has a great deal to do with his honor and his integrity and wanting to defend the people of Texas and to do it the right way.

I will miss you, LOUIE, but I know you are not going to be too far away.

I will leave you with this: During a speech in one of the famous Gohmert hours, Congressman GOHMERT said: My SAT score would shock people who think I am the dumbest Member of Congress.

Well, nothing could be farther from the truth. He is one of the smartest Members, one of the best lawyers, and one of the best human beings.

It has been an honor to serve alongside you, my friend. We will see you soon in other areas of life. God bless you.

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOOD).

Mr. GOOD of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, LOUIE GOHMERT is just as popular among my constituents in Virginia as he is among my esteemed colleagues' constituents from Texas.

LOUIE was one of the first Members of Congress to come and support me in my district when I started this journey 3 years ago. He literally drove through the night to come down to Virginia to help a fledgling, aspiring Congressman down in the Fifth Congressional District of Virginia.

LOUIE since I have gotten here has been an example of courage. As a freshman, I quickly observed him being

willing to go to the microphone time and again, not only to challenge the other side but even to challenge our side when he felt they were wrong or weren't living up to the ideals that we promised to live up to for our constituents.

I have admired him for his character and testimony on a personal level, his love for our Lord, his love for our Savior, Jesus Christ.

LOUIE GOHMERT is one of those people you meet here in Congress who is the same here in person as he is on TV when folks watch him. I am proud to learn from and serve with this true courageous, conservative warrior.

I am proud to call LOUIE a friend on a personal level. He will be missed. Even in his leaving this Congress, he is leaving in a courageous, selfless act, because he could have stayed here as long as he wanted to, to represent his district. But he loves his beloved State of Texas, and in a tremendous act of courage he took personal risk in leaving this body.

He has had a lifetime of service. He was an Army Captain, a Texas district judge, Chief Justice of the Twelfth Court of Appeals of Texas, and has spent 18 years of courageous, conservative service here in Washington.

Thank you, LOUIE. I admire you, love you, and I am proud to call you a friend. God bless you.

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BISHOP).

Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, one of the things that I want to say about LOUIE GOHMERT is that LOUIE is a hero to many, many Americans, and he is a hero to me.

One of the pretty heady things about walking onto the floor of the United States House of Representatives is that you meet these people you have seen on your television screens across the country that you have heard from who have spoken the words that you wish you could have spoken.

LOUIE was one of the first heroes I met. You meet some people who are not necessarily heroes, too, here. But LOUIE was a hero that I met maybe my first day walking on the floor.

Another thing about this place is sometimes everything has been said, not everybody said it, but there are moments when having the opportunity to join the chorus is as important as anything I can think of.

To LOUIE GOHMERT, I say thank you for being a hero. Thank you for always being a loyal fighter for freedom.

All of us seem to fail, and sometimes at the moment when most needed, LOUIE, you have never failed. You have persisted.

While sometimes I am uncertain how to fill up the time, you will stand on this floor and you will rely on your inner substance, and you can lay it out as long as you need to go to communicate to the American people, to communicate on their behalf, to say what matters. I don't know what we will do without you.

God bless you, LOUIE GOHMERT.

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CLOUD).

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, we are going to miss Mr. GOHMERT, my fellow Texan and House colleague.

It has been an honor to get to know you and now to be able to call you a friend.

I will definitely miss LOUIE GOHMERT hour at the end of every week. We will miss the ribs that are certainly worth a mention in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

I remember the first time I met you. I was a Texan, just grassroots, and you inspired me. I remember you speaking about the things that you were working to accomplish up here. A few things were obvious.

One was that you hadn't forgotten who you were working for. It was obvious to me that you were compelled by your love for the Constitution and these founding principles our Nation was built upon, and you were motivated by your deep and abiding faith. Those things resonated with me, as someone trying to make a difference where I could.

I didn't know I was ultimately going to have the opportunity to be here and get to know you. It is truly an honor to see and to watch your service. You have been a happy warrior who stands up, doesn't flinch, stands for what is right, what is just, and you haven't forgotten why you are here.

We have all seen people who can kind of get used to it, get comfortable with what is going on here. You haven't done that. You have stayed true.

It is an honor to know you. I thank you for being a hero in this place on behalf of our Nation and on behalf of our State. Thanks so much. God bless you.

□ 1745

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. POSEY).

Mr. POSEY. LOUIE, the first person who reached their hand out to me when I got here was not you. It was Ron Paul. You were the second one. I got to know you good through Ron Paul's lunches, his wonderful lunches at his Liberty Caucus. I learned, before I ever heard you speak, of what a true patriot you were.

I don't know that there has ever been a more consistent Member since I have been here on principles, policy, and ethics than you, LOUIE GOHMERT. You have been a fearless voice for those that were voiceless, something which every Member of Congress should aspire to be. You have been an advocate for what is right about America and a fierce opponent of what is not right for America.

Congressman GOHMERT, you have always been well informed on a galaxy of issues that come before this body, and as always, you have been more than well prepared to fight for the good and against the bad.

An honest, pragmatic, free thinker for sure, Congress could surely use more LOUIE GOHMERTS, not fewer.

We are going to miss you, LOUIE. Godspeed. I don't know what we are going to do without you.

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. MASSIE).

Mr. MASSIE. Mr. Speaker, there is not a more fierce fighter than LOUIE GOHMERT in this House, and if you are serving in this House and have a bigger heart than LOUIE GOHMERT, I haven't met you yet. I am sorry. I need to find you. I haven't found anybody with a heart the size of LOUIE GOHMERT's.

One of the measures, I think, of a Member here is how they treat their staff and how their staff responds to them. LOUIE GOHMERT attracts the best talent of anybody in this Chamber, and they love him. We love LOUIE GOHMERT.

I remember my first week in Congress. I was in conference. We were going to elect a Speaker, and nobody was challenging Speaker Boehner. LOUIE GOHMERT got up to nominate somebody else. He reminded us all that you didn't have to be a Member of the House to be nominated for Speaker. I was just praying that he didn't nominate Ron Paul because I knew I would have to second that nomination.

I leaned to the person next to me, and I said: "Who is that guy making that nomination?" He said: "Oh, that is Louie Gohmert. He is crazy."

Well, within a week, I realized LOUIE GOHMERT was the only sane man in this Chamber, and for 10 years, he has been guiding me. He has a photographic memory and is sharp as a whip. He is like an encyclopedia of everything that has happened in this Chamber while he was here, before I got here.

One day in conference, they were telling us: Look, when the quarterback calls the play and snaps the ball, you don't execute another play. They were imploring us to do something, frankly, that wasn't in the best interests of the people from Tyler, Texas, nor in the interests of the people from Kentucky.

I asked LOUIE: LOUIE, what are you going to do when the quarterback snaps the ball?

He said: When the quarterback snaps the ball and runs for the wrong end zone, I am not obligated to block for him. In fact, I might have to tackle him.

LOUIE GOHMERT has never been afraid to go against the grain when it means supporting the people from Texas' First District, and that is the people I thank for loaning us LOUIE GOHMERT, for having the good discernment to send him to Congress in the first place and then to send him back. America has benefited from the good judgment of the people in Texas' First District.

We are going to miss you very much, sorely, LOUIE.

Mr. WEBER of Texas. THOMAS, you came in with me in 2012, as I recall.

Mr. MASSIE. Yes.

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Just a little bit of history here. In my second term,

when LOUIE GOHMERT decided to throw his name in the hat for Speaker, us knowing him, believing to know him and his character, I said, "I am all in, LOUIE."

It turned out I was part of the Gohmert caucus of three that voted for him for Speaker. I paid a price for it, of course, but LOUIE stood firm. Jim Bridenstine was the other one. Since they vote alphabetically, Bridenstine voted for GOHMERT, and GOHMERT voted for GOHMERT. We already knew who the Speaker was going to be. It gets to the W's. Bridenstine is texting me and saying don't leave us hanging. I said, "I told LOUIE I was all on board. I am all on board." So Weber put that GOHMERT name up there.

Thank you, THOMAS, that is a great remembrance. He has been a fighter and was always willing to put himself out there.

Mr. Speaker, I now yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SESSIONS).

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman WEBER very much for not only preparing this opportunity for us to honor our colleague and a Member who will be leaving this body after a number of years, the great judge and Congressman, LOUIE GOHMERT.

I rise tonight not just to honor LOUIE GOHMERT but to probably say some things that not many Members can say, and that is I know Tyler, Texas, and I know Tyler, Texas, well. I know many people there, and each of them not only speak well of LOUIE GOHMERT but are pleased with his performance. They enjoy not only his representation, but they believe that he is a man who came to this town knowing who he is and will leave this town knowing who he is. The same person that came is the same person that is leaving.

You know this, Judge GOHMERT, but I have the honor to take part of your congressional district that, through redistricting, has changed. It gives me time to come and reflect upon not only your friends in east Texas, Angelina County, and certainly places like Crockett. Huntsville is a little bit south of the district, but they asked me the other day when I was in Huntsville: "Do you know Louie Gohmert? Because we were kind of thinking that before he said he was leaving that he was going to come down here and be our Congressman." I said: "Well, that is the same thing they say in Lufkin and Nacogdoches. They say that in Crockett. They say that in Waco."

There were a lot of fans all over central Texas that not only admired LOUIE, but he speaks very eloquently about the things that are on their minds, that are front and center on his mind.

For his friends in Waco, Dallas, and Huntsville, certainly across the district that he represents, LOUIE GOHMERT has not only made a name but has, with his great passion and articulation, struck the hearts of many people in Texas who deeply believe that Texas is special, that America is the

greatest place in the world, and that we want to be one Nation under God for as long as we can stay there.

Judge GOHMERT, you are going to be missed, but I look forward to catching up with you often and letting you know that there are a lot of people who thought you did a great job and did it well and are proud of you.

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I will echo what Congressman SESSIONS said, that our district loves LOUIE GOHMERT. He was invited to speak. Unfortunately, his calendar wouldn't always permit it, but we did finally get him to come to speak to us.

My District 14 on the Gulf Coast, I am not sure we could have drawn your district that far down to the south, but there are a lot of people who would have sure loved that.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Montana (Mr. ROSENDALE).

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, a lot of people have been speaking a lot of wonderful high praise about LOUIE.

I will tell you, I met LOUIE before I arrived in Congress. I am a freshman, so I haven't had the opportunity to spend as much time with him as many of you have. Before I got here, LOUIE sat me down, and he told me a story.

He was out in Montana doing an event for another Member of Congress. He told me this story: I used to be a judge. I was a judge there in east Texas, and one of the big cases that I had come before me when it was right before an election.

He said every other judge that had this case presented to them had recused themselves because they didn't want to have their fingerprints on it because it was a big problem. It was a man and a wife. There was a domestic problem. There was a murder involved. Half the town supported the husband, half the town supported the wife, and there wasn't a judge around that wanted to get involved in the situation.

LOUIE said: I thought about it. I thought about it, and I went to prayer that evening. I was really struggling with whether I needed to pick this case up or not, whether I needed to pick that fight or not.

He said: The next morning, I got up and knew what I had to do. It came to me, the words from the Holy Spirit came to me, "You can't run from what you ran for."

You can't run from what you ran for. I have carried that message with me as I walk into this Chamber on a daily basis because there are so many people who are afraid to do the right thing. They know what is right, and they walk away and hide. They get other people to help them explain their way out of it.

But there is a right and a wrong in what we do up here, and LOUIE GOHMERT personifies a man who is willing to stand up and say this is what is right, and this is what is wrong. We don't need a deep explanation about it. It is really rather simple: Don't run from what you ran for. It is difficult

issues that we are addressing every single day, and this is why we were sent here.

They tell us all that we are honorable when we get here. You get letters in the mail, the Honorable MATT ROSENDALE, the Honorable RANDY WEBER, the Honorable CLAY HIGGINS, and, yes, the Honorable ANDY BIGGS. It is not so important when you get here to be called honorable as it is to still be addressed as honorable when you leave.

I will stand here and tell everyone that LOUIE GOHMERT will be considered honorable when he leaves this place, and I am honored to call him my friend.

God bless you. Please come and kill a turkey on my place next year.

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. BIGGS), somebody who is honorable.

Mr. BIGGS. Mr. Speaker, it is really an incredible thing to be here. Before I came to Congress, I had heard of LOUIE GOHMERT. I had no idea that he would be a friend nor how iconoclastic he is. He is a one-of-a-kind American.

I have a volume of stories. I mean, the way he eats a doughnut, for instance. We could talk about all of these things. I won't do that.

He is larger than life. He is a fearless conservative. He has been on the front lines fearlessly fighting.

THOMAS MASSIE was talking about his memory. It is copious. It is encyclopedic. You can never go wrong with saying, "Hey, LOUIE, what happened here?" Because he is going to know.

He has been a friend of the friendless and a champion who offers the balm of Gilead to those who have a lost cause. He has just been an iconoclastic individual. He is going to be missed terribly.

I tell you what, LOUIE, we are going to miss you, your personality, your fun, your joie de vivre—that is French, LOUIE; you might not have recognized that—your love of life, all the things that you brought to us. But we are going to miss your guitar playing—a little bit, anyway. We are really going to miss your ribs. I don't know if anybody else is going to be able to smoke some ribs up on the balcony of the office building over there. Maybe not. But we are sure going to miss them. We are sure going to miss you, my friend. God bless you. Godspeed.

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative BIGGS for those kind words. If he will get with me later, I will tell him some of those stories, all that we all admire and cherish about Congressman GOHMERT.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. HIGGINS), my neighbor to the east of me.

Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I am so honored to speak on behalf of the people of the country that we serve, the oath that we have sworn, and bid some words of adoration and respect for our brother and friend, LOUIE GOHMERT.

I have described LOUIE as a living Founding Father. To those that have inquired as to whether I have known him, which from sea to shining sea, it is a common question as we travel in service to "we the people," we are asked: "Do you know this fellow? Do you know that lady?" It is quite common to be asked: "Do you know LOUIE GOHMERT?" I am honored to say yes.

LOUIE has represented not just the people of his district, and by extension the Nation that we love and have sworn to serve, but he has represented the foundational core principles that gave birth to our Nation.

In Matthew, the words of the Lord stated: "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied."

You, my brother LOUIE, should feel satisfied within your soul, good sir, because you have brought the very essence of pure principle and spirit to this great body. This Chamber shall forever resonate with your words and your love for God and country. I am honored to have worked with you, to call you brother and friend.

□ 1800

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for speaking. We are going to give the two gentlemen here a chance to express their love for one another.

Mr. Speaker, I have watched LOUIE GOHMERT for a long time. So much could be said about him. So much has been said about him; some of it is even true. Having LOUIE for one of my very good friends gives me status. You know, I had a friend in the fifth grade that gave me the measles, and this is a lot better deal, let me just tell you that. LOUIE has got a great sense of humor. He is a great patriot. He is a great Christian. We all know that.

We have seen him stand for our biblical values time and time and time again. Maybe it sounds a little archaic or a little corny, I don't know, but I think of Roosevelt and his great speech. And it is called "The Man in the Arena" because, Mr. Speaker, it does apply to LOUIE GOHMERT. He is in our arena. He is our fighter. I remind folks President Roosevelt said: "It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles; or where the doer of deeds could have done them better."

"The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph—at the best, LOUIE GOHMERT—"the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly . . ."

My good friend, LOUIE GOHMERT, has not failed, will not fail.

The President went on: ". . . if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat."

Someone who is heavily involved in a situation that requires courage, skill, or tenacity as opposed to someone sitting on the sidelines and watching, and the President went on.

I will tell you that nothing has discouraged LOUIE GOHMERT. Nothing has laid him down in the defeat of dust as President Roosevelt described it. He has been a tireless fighter. LOUIE, you and I have been through a lot of battles. We have seen a lot of things. Some of the things we just shake our heads at, but ultimately, we know who is in control.

We know that you have done the Lord's bidding. We know that you fought the good fight. We know that you have endured until the end. We know that you have been a sterling example of what President Reagan called a light on a hill. I forget exactly how he said it, but you are one of those points of light—I think President George H. W. Bush used that analogy—that the rest of us Members in Congress could learn from, that people watching on TV on C-SPAN and out in America could learn from. You never doubted where you stood, never doubted what you stood for or who you stood for.

I can't tell you how proud I am to be called your friend and to know that. We are going to miss you, but I have a feeling you won't be a stranger. We will get to see you come back. If nothing else, I still have to get that rib recipe from you. I still have to get the trademark on that rib recipe from you, the patent on it.

In Texas 14, just like your district, we love God, we love our America, we love our freedom, we love our family, we love our guns, and, LOUIE, you have done a tireless, tireless, spectacular job of defending all of those, and it shows. We believe what the Bible says, quite frankly. God made males and females, a lot of biblical principles. You have stood up for those principles for our Lord Jesus Christ every bit of the way.

Having been a Texas Supreme Court Justice, if you had told me that on our Supreme Court that some of them wouldn't even know what a woman was, from Texas we just don't get that, do we? We understand what the Bible says.

If you had told me, if you and I sat down 10 years ago, that the left would be trying to destroy fossil fuels, the things that make our country so great, that we fight for so diligently in Texas, I wouldn't have believed it. You and I have watched a lot of things come down the pike, a lot of things come down the pike.

So I can sit here and go all night and all day. I believe we do have the leader coming in eventually to come and share a few words, but, LOUIE, if you don't mind, I would like to yield you

some time to give your thoughts and let us continue right now to learn from you yet some more.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT), my good friend.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I am so grateful to my fellow Texan, and I am not saying that lightly, dear friend, with whom a lot of battles have been fought for organizing this Special Order. And I can also honestly say that in my 18 years here I have never been more uncomfortable on the floor than I have been listening to these comments. I had no idea—I never asked—I had no idea how much time I have spoken. Is that really right?

Mr. WEBER of Texas. LOUIE, we don't have enough time to talk about how much time you have actually spent here. It is what your staff said. And it was already pointed out tonight you did such a great job at hiring competent staff, so you better believe it is right. We are proud of you for that.

Mr. GOHMERT. When I came to Congress I had seen that the country was in trouble and having been a history student and having loved history, I knew no republic lasts forever. I knew we were about to the extent of the length of time that republics come and go. I didn't expect to be here 18 years, but I had hoped that when I left I could feel we had perpetuated that liberty for at least another generation, hopefully, much more.

As I sat here listening to the gracious comments, I was taken right back to Ben Franklin's speech in the Constitutional Convention in 1787 after they couldn't agree on much but his words: "I have lived, sir, a long time and the longer I live, the more convincing proofs I see of this truth—that God governs in the affairs of men. And if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without His notice, is it probable that an empire could rise without His aid? We have been assured, sir, in the sacred writings that 'except the Lord build they labor in vain that build it.'"

It just seems to me that we have much less concern or desire overall for having the Lord help build the House. I know historically what that means.

I have been deeply encouraged on seeing the people that have come in since I did, and especially in recent years, and I am taking great heart from the fact that we have got some fighters that have come in. If I have helped inspire some, as they said, that is something I can take with me, but I will continue to follow what goes on here and help in any way I can. I am very grateful.

I see my dear friend from Louisiana is here, and I thank God that He brought him through his brush with death because we have been better for him being here. I thank all of those who have spoken tonight.

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I want to mention we do have a great love and affection for Kathy, your bride, for loaning you to us. I know it

is a sacrifice for her. As you pointed out, we have a great leader.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to yield to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. SCALISE).

Mr. SCALISE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Texas (Mr. WEBER) for yielding and for organizing this tribute to my dear friend, LOUIE GOHMERT.

We will miss you in this Chamber, but I have nothing but great memories of LOUIE. You expressed so many prayers for me in tough times, but also, the things you would do, and I see on the poster the ribs because that is what I think of when LOUIE GOHMERT would offer to the Members to cook ribs for them at the end of a long night.

We have gotten into a lot of heady debates here. We sometimes spar with each other. At the end of that battle to bring people together and say, you know what, we are going to eat some ribs—and, by the way, they are really, really good. He has never given the recipe.

Mr. WEBER of Texas. I am working on that.

Mr. SCALISE. I think you ought to pass the recipe on, so we can keep that tradition going, if nothing else—we won't enter it into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—just the seasoning and rub you put on it the night before.

But it is one of those things that helps bring Members together because there are a lot of times where it is easy to get on different sides and people are battling on different issues, but to come together at the end of that, and that is something I will always remember because at the end of those long evenings there would be 50 to 100 Members of Congress in those little offices enjoying that camaraderie. It wasn't just the ribs and the Shiner Bock beer you brought, but it is the camaraderie more than anything. That is one thing we need more of. We are going to have disagreements; we always have since the founding of our great Nation. But to be able to come together at the end of each of those disagreements and remember the bond that joins us, that is much more powerful.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my dear friend, LOUIE GOHMERT, for his service here to the United States Congress.

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT).

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I would like the RECORD to reflect that after 5 years or so of cooking ribs on the gutter or balcony or whatever you want to call it of the Cannon Building, the Architect of the Capitol decreed I couldn't do that anymore and found a provision that indicated that. But it was STEVE SCALISE of Louisiana that went to bat with the powers here that ultimately allowed me to start cooking ribs again. I will always be grateful because that is maybe the only time I ever left a good taste in people's mouths. So I am very grateful to STEVE for helping make that happen. You

were the one that facilitated that, and I am grateful.

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I want the RECORD to reflect—if I can say this—I am going to get a commitment out of him to get that recipe for those ribs.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. LAMBORN).

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative WEBER for yielding.

LOUIE, I sat next to you for 16 years, I think, in the Natural Resources Committee or one or two removed from you, and at the end we were right next to each other, and you would give me a lot of quips during hearings, during witness testimony. One thing you always struck me as being is a happy warrior.

□ 1815

You are a warrior in the sense that you are passionate and committed to your conservative views and you are happy about it. You have good humor. We just saw a minute ago you poked fun at yourself in a humorous way. So that combination is very rare, and we need more of that. We need people who are happy, positive, and have good humor. You have all of those attributes.

I won't go into these stories because it would take forever to give the background, but you remember some times in Israel we were together floating in the Dead Sea, or you found the dead cat, or other things like that. There are stories we could go into, and I won't do that.

But it has been a real honor serving with you, and I wish you the best. The people of east Texas have been very well represented, and I am sure they will have to make do with somebody else and they will eventually like that person, but they are going to truly miss you, and you will be missed here.

We wish you the best and Godspeed.

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his comments.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Illinois (Mrs. MILLER).

Mrs. MILLER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, today we honor Congressman LOUIE GOHMERT and his years of service to the First District of Texas. I left the event I was at and rushed over here.

I appreciate you so much. Actually, LOUIE, you know you were the first Congressperson I met who was so warm, encouraging, and friendly. I appreciate how you initiated and were always there to be helpful.

Representative GOHMERT, you have been a strong fighter for our constitutional freedoms of religion and speech, States' rights, Second Amendment rights, and more. You have been an inspiration to Members of this body, including myself, and you will be missed.

Oh my, the best ribs I ever ate. I need that recipe. You said you would give it to me.

Thank you, Congressman GOHMERT, for your dedication to our Nation and all your hard work in protecting the

American way of life for future generations. You and I have talked about how much we care about future generations and what we are leaving them.

May God bless you and your family. My prayers will be with you as you transition to your next endeavor.

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for her comments.

It sounds as if your ribs probably need to be trademarked or patented or whatever it takes to get that out. We just can't say enough, LOUIE. We have got other people. It is amazing that Mrs. MARY MILLER would rush over here. I thought when she said that, wow, that is commitment. But then I thought, no, that is love—it is commitment—and that is love for LOUIE GOHMERT. It is respect, it is honor, and it is us wanting to say you are a tower among those people who have ever darkened these doors and been in this place. I can't say thank you enough.

I want the same guarantee that I get the recipe; otherwise, I will have to hack into her computer and get that recipe for those ribs.

I just can't say enough. We have got a couple more people; hopefully, Dr. BRIAN BABIN and JOHEY ARRINGTON will be here shortly.

So if you want to take this time, LOUIE, to lay out all the ingredients, then we can all write it down. But please come share some more from your heart while we wait. We just can't tell you how grateful we are to be able to spend this time with you.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT).

Mr. GOHMERT. Obviously, the people whom I have to thank in addition to my family, Kathy is—well, I don't think I could have gotten elected without her help both running for judge and then for Congress. My girls have put up with so very much. They have taken abuse for my positions and things I have said, done, and fought for.

But I have always felt that I was the most fortunate Member of Congress because of whom I got to represent, the people of east Texas. We are so blessed in Texas. I am really blessed they took a chance. Nine of twelve counties had not elected a Republican for Congress, and I am grateful that they took a chance on me. So I will always be grateful to the people of east Texas. My service is not over, it will be in a different capacity.

One of the things that has really bothered me during my time is other Christians saying: LOUIE, we don't have to worry, God is in control.

That is so frustrating.

I love what my friend, Pastor Tommy Nelson says:

Just because God is in control doesn't mean He wants us to lean on our shovel and pray for a hole because He gave us all tools and expects us to use the tools while we are praying, that is fine, but use what He gave us.

We have heard from people who have done that. There are so many more

that are tied up other places. But it really has been an inspiration to me to see the people who are coming in, who have come in, like those we have heard from; they are smart, ethical, and care deeply about America and about America's future. So that is an encouragement to me. I am so glad I got a glimpse of that.

Actually, when I decided I had to at least try, as late as I got into the race for Attorney General, I knew, I had seen, I had heard, and I had become friends with people whom I knew were going to be fighting for what is right. We don't have to agree on everything.

It was an honor for me to know BOBBY RUSH. Even though some gave me grief because I did not vote initially for his Emmett Till bill; I was for it, but then when they cut the maximum sentence back to 10 years, that was just such a shortchange. As a former judge, I couldn't imagine being limited to 10 years in sentencing somebody involved in some conspiracy like that, to do something as horrible as that. So I was very pleased—because of Congressman RUSH's constant never giving up and continuing to push—when we got a bill that was more deserving of his name and Emmett Till's name.

There have been great opportunities. I know there are good people here. I will continue to pray for this body. I am just thankful that I got to serve with the folks here.

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. FULCHER).

Mr. FULCHER. Mr. Speaker, it is 2022 in the U.S. Congress. We have crises with inflation, energy, and homeland security. We have got issues with the border, the Ukrainian invasion, and the list goes on. The only thing higher than the degree of partisanship is our national debt. The only thing lower than congressional approval is confidence in the President.

So why would anybody want to serve at a time like this?

There tends to be two types of congressional Members, those with a personal agenda, typically one that places themselves and the title of Congressman at the forefront, and those who sincerely desire to serve Americans and protect the divine principles our Nation was founded on.

LOUIE GOHMERT is clearly in the latter category.

Time after time, when personal liberties were being challenged, taxpayer money misused, and Christian values maligned, LOUIE GOHMERT would stand, and with his unrivaled passion he would state his case.

Mr. GOHMERT, you are that rare type of Member our Founders had hoped would sit in this Chamber in the future. You made your constituents proud. You honored biblical guidelines for governance.

It is an honor to call you a friend. You will be missed.

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his comments.

RUSS is exactly correct. LOUIE GOHMERT has stood strong against abortion. The judge has stood strong against the Green New Deal and the destruction of the fossil fuel industry that makes America great. We have got to have fossil fuel so that our enemies around the world cannot just overrun us with their military might.

Judge GOHMERT has fought any attempt to do away with gun rights. He has been a great soldier in that regard.

He has fought against this administration's attempt to keep the borders open and all that that means, whether it is killing 100,000 Americans a year with fentanyl—300 a day. Just imagine, Mr. Speaker, if you would, 300 Americans a day is like two jet airliners going down every single day.

How long do you think it would take for the American public to cry out if there were two jet airliners hitting the ground and killing 150 people on board every day?

You have stood strong against open borders. You have stood strong against Congress' willingness to give away taxpayer dollars. You have stood strong against some Members who want to increase the size of government agencies.

Can you say 87,000 IRS agents?

You stood strong against a big tech that was out of control and wanted protection from liability.

Yes, as RUSS and many others have pointed out, you have been a supreme fighter for defending rights of religious liberty, and you have been a supreme fighter against those who would turn America into a socialist country. I can't enumerate that as well as you can and have done so eloquently over the years.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BABIN).

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend. Both of these guys are great friends. This is a great tribute today to a great man.

No one is more well-known in the conservative world than Judge LOUIE GOHMERT. I am very grateful to have served with him as my brother in the Texas delegation for the last 8 years since I was elected.

It is no secret that LOUIE is a speaker of truth and a fighter for our freedoms. He is unapologetic in his principles and a true defender of the United States Constitution.

As President Trump said: LOUIE has guts. He is as tough as hell.

Isn't that the truth?

But he is more than that. He is also a man of integrity, a veteran, a judge, a historian, a Bible scholar, a really fair preacher, a husband, and a father.

Judge GOHMERT is my neighbor to the north. He represents the First District of Texas, and I represent the last district, the 36th District. That is changing as we have had redistricting, but I like to tell people that. He has fought tirelessly to preserve and protect our border and prosper the State of Texas.

In a judiciary hearing a few months ago, LOUIE quoted the author George

Orwell saying, "Free speech is my right to say what you don't want to hear." What a fitting quote for our friend, LOUIE GOHMERT.

You can count on LOUIE to be truthful. Sometimes he says what you don't want him to say. But he says it if he believes it. He is a man of integrity, and he stands his ground. You can count on LOUIE GOHMERT to be bold, and you can count on LOUIS to be fearless.

There will be a great hole in this august body here without LOUIE GOHMERT. I imagine that it will really never be filled in the same way that it was.

In a recent Louie Hour, my friend closed his time on the floor with following words, and I would like to do the same.

I continue to have hope that springs eternal in the human breast that we don't and won't lose the greatest freedom, the greatest country, and the greatest gift of a country any people has ever received, and that it will not be our generation that sees it lost.

May God bless LOUIE GOHMERT and his family.

We will miss him.

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARRINGTON).

Mr. ARRINGTON. Mr. Speaker, I want to say what an honor it has been to serve alongside the great LOUIE GOHMERT. I have watched him on television, as we say, for many years, fighting the fight for our freedom, for the Constitution, and for the values that make America so exceptional and so great.

I know I am about to be gaveled, and I am running out of time, so let me say this: This man has the kind of grit and the kind of fight that this country and this country's leaders are going to need if we are going to restore freedom and return power to the people and resurrect the great United States of America.

If we could just bottle a little bit of LOUIE GOHMERT and force-feed it to the Members of this body, I believe we could get our great country back.

God bless LOUIE GOHMERT. God bless his family and all his future endeavors, and God bless America.

□ 1830

HONORING FRED HAMPTON

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RUSH) for 30 minutes.

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend, LOUIE GOHMERT, for his friendship over the past years that we have served together in this Chamber.

I certainly thank him for his support of the Emmett Till Antilynching Act that was signed into law by President Biden a few months ago. I thank Representative GOHMERT for his support and for his steadfastness on that bill.

Mr. Speaker, it is for the final time that I stand in this well on this floor to commemorate the memory and the legacy of Fred Hampton, my friend and comrade in the Black Panther Party.

This last Sunday marked 53 years since Chairman Fred was assassinated by a racist, corrupt Chicago Police Department, which, as a part of the FBI's COINTELPRO program, the FBI's national counterintelligence program, without legal authority and in stark violation of the U.S. Constitution, surveilled, harassed, harmed, arrested, and assassinated innocent, ordinary American citizens.

My friend, Fred Hampton, was a brilliant young man that I recruited to join the Illinois Chapter of the Black Panther Party, which I, along with Mr. Bob Brown, organized in 1968.

Fred and I fought together side by side against police brutality and police murder in Chicago specifically, but across our great Nation in general.

We set up free community health clinics, free breakfast for children programs, and a free busing to prison program to allow families to visit their loved ones who were in prison.

Mr. Speaker, we initiated free sickle cell anemia testing programs to educate this Nation and to tell Black people about this dreaded but often and largely ignored disease.

Mr. Speaker, thanks to his charismatic leadership, Fred Hampton was so powerful and so inspirational throughout the city of Chicago and the Nation at large, his charisma, his influence extended even to other countries.

Chairman Fred was a charismatic, courageous, exceptional, and highly committed leader, who, at the age of 21, was assassinated while he slept under the influence of the drug Seconal that was put in his favorite drink at that time, which was Kool-Aid. His Kool-Aid was laced with Seconal.

Why? Because Fred Hampton used every fiber of his talent, his immense talent, without hesitancy, to fight for poor people: poor Whites, poor Blacks, poor Asians, poor Hispanic people, poor people across the board.

His oratory skills exceeded almost every significant leader of his time. Indeed, Mr. Speaker, he was able to move the masses not simply and only because of his oratory but also because of his example.

To see Fred, to hear Fred, was to know Fred, to be inspired by Fred.

Mr. Speaker, Chicago, my home city, the city I love, was and still is one of the most segregated cities in America, but Chairman Fred understood how to connect across racial and geographic boundaries. He knew how to connect with aspirations and deep-seated desires of people across racial and geographic lines. He knew how to create alliances and coalitions based around common needs and common desires.

He created the original Rainbow Coalition in Chicago. This coalition was a partnership with the Young Lords, a Hispanic organization, and the Young

Patriots, which was an organization of poor Appalachian Whites from the Uptown community in Chicago.

Mr. Speaker, this amazing, creative, never-seen-before coalition of poor people was comprised of working-class people in our city suffering with the same issues that we all were suffering with. Those issues were police brutality, substandard housing, mediocre education, low-quality healthcare, and low-quality food that was being sold in stores in our neighborhoods.

Mr. Speaker, these were the programs that Fred Hampton championed. This was the kind of individual that Fred Hampton was.

I stand here today, Mr. Speaker, and say that rather than be saluted for these and similar efforts, the Black Panther Party members, and particularly Chairman Fred, were seen as a threat to those in power.

J. Edgar Hoover said that the Black Panther Party was this Nation's number one threat. Why? We were feeding hungry children. We were providing free healthcare to young children, to poor people who needed it. We were taking loved ones to prison to see their loved ones who were incarcerated. We were speaking truth to power.

Is this the reason why Fred Hampton was assassinated? Is this the very reason why the Black Panther Party was being viewed by J. Edgar Hoover and the FBI as the number one threat to this Nation? It just doesn't make sense.

Mr. Speaker, J. Edgar Hoover's FBI started a file on Fred and put him on their Agitator Index, listing him as a key militant leader.

They even went so far as to hire a fellow by the name of William O'Neal, a streetwise Black criminal and operative, as an FBI informant who was assigned to infiltrate the Black Panther Party and report back to them about our every move, our every activity.

□ 1845

And then, Mr. Speaker, on December 4, 1969, at about 4 a.m. in the morning, the Chicago Police Department, working in conjunction with the FBI and the Cook County State's Attorney, Edward V. Hanrahan, surreptitiously entered an apartment at 2337 West Monroe where Fred Hampton lived, and where other Black Panther Party members were staying. They came with the premeditated plan to murder Fred Hampton, to murder me and any other party members that they found in that apartment.

They came armed with machine guns, high-powered pistols, and every other type of weapon, intent on killing everyone in that apartment. They came under the guise of executing a search warrant for weapons, but had every intention of murdering Fred Hampton, and others in that apartment. They killed Fred.

Mr. Speaker, let me make it real clear. Throughout American history, there has not been anyone other than

Fred Hampton that was assassinated under the authority of the U.S. Government—not one. Fred Hampton was the only politically assassinated American citizen that was assassinated on the shores of our Nation. Fred Hampton.

They came for me, but they missed me, Mr. Speaker. Early the following morning at about 5 a.m. on December 5, they came, the Chicago Police Department tried to kill me again. They came to my apartment with a search warrant for weapons and they shot my door down, but I was not in that apartment. I moved my family out of that apartment, just hours before they came, on the preceding day.

Mr. Speaker, they tried to justify the murders of Fred Hampton and Mark Clark by saying that it was a shoot-out, placing the blame on Fred and other members of the Black Panther Party. Later, it became crystal clear that this was a clear politically motivated assassination.

The grand jury evidence showed that the police had fired 99 times—99 shots fired into that apartment. And they also said that there were only two shots that were possibly fired by the Panthers in that apartment.

Mr. Speaker, let me remind you that this was during the 1960s, a time of deep and necessary awakening in our Nation, a time of political protest, a time of cultural confrontation. A time of change in our Nation. It was a time when poor, oppressed people took a necessary step forward to end the systemic oppression that they were faced with.

African Americans, women, disabled individuals, Mexican-American farmworkers, Native Americans, anti-war protestors, environmentalists, and other activists organized to fight during this time against injustice and for equality and for equity.

Most of us view this time, some half-century later, as a turning point in American history. A time when the oppressed populations in our Nation finally had an opportunity to speak up and create positive change for themselves and by themselves.

However, Mr. Speaker, J. Edgar Hoover, didn't like what he saw. He didn't like what was going on in our Nation.

J. Edgar Hoover determined that anyone who had the audacity to stand up and challenge the oppressive status quo, that they were a threat.

To whom? We were American citizens. We loved our Nation. We were a threat to him and his consorts—him and those who wanted to oppress, for racial and other reasons, poor people.

Mr. Speaker, in 1956, J. Edgar Hoover created and designed a program within the Federal Bureau of Investigation called COINTELPRO. COINTELPRO was an acronym for the Counterintelligence Program of the FBI.

This program was a calculated, strategic effort to discredit, dismantle, neutralize all the efforts for societal reform, for our right to constitutionally redress our grievances and lift

the oppression, subjugation, discrimination, and biases that we were forced to live under.

This COINTEL Program illegally, outside of the law, spied on and harassed American citizens. They went so far as to tap phone lines, plant false and damaging stories in the national and local press, falsely imprison people, charging people, and even assassinating American citizens, activists.

J. Edgar Hoover and the FBI famously targeted Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and his family. Hoover sought to discredit Dr. King and to undermine his civil rights work by painting him as a Communist.

After Dr. King made his iconic "I Have a Dream" speech, and the inspiration that it created for people from all backgrounds across the Nation, then J. Edgar Hoover and the FBI came to view Dr. King as a dangerous person. They began a massive surveillance campaign against Dr. King. They tried to prove that Dr. King was a Communist. They failed to produce one scintilla of evidence on this, but they still habitually harassed Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

In 1964, the FBI sent what is known as the "suicide letter," that was their quote. The letter urged Dr. King to commit suicide by calling him a fraud and citing alleged extramarital affairs. This dastardly, low-life letter was sent to Dr. King's home where it was opened by his wife, Coretta.

This was a calculated, sinister, and deeply personal attempt by the FBI designed to bring shame and harm to Dr. King and his family. This was outside of everything that this Nation stands for—outside of the law.

Mr. Speaker, they were using taxpayer dollars in order to do these and other dastardly things, using this COINTEL Program as their vehicle.

They didn't stop with Dr. King. Some of the other well-known targets for this COINTEL Program included Aretha Franklin, Malcolm X, Muhammad Ali, Billie Holiday, Marilyn Monroe, Jane Fonda, Jean Seberg, John Lennon, Yoko Ono, even the 1960s pop band, The Monkees. They were also victims of COINTEL.

□ 1900

J. Edgar Hoover had already started spying on people like Charlie Chaplin and Ernest Hemingway well before this COINTELPRO program was finalized and set up and operationalized.

This COINTELPRO program targeted everyday people, not just luminaries, but everyday, ordinary American citizens, anyone that had the audacity to voice a disagreement against discrimination.

They even targeted housewives, the housewives who attended the chapter meetings for the National Organization for Women.

Mr. Speaker, I have introduced the COINTELPRO Full Disclosure Act, H.R. 2998, and I ask that the Members of this Congress sign on to this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

NATIONAL BIBLE WEEK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. LAMBORN) for 30 minutes.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the topic of this Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Colorado?

There was no objection.

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor for me to come to the floor tonight to commemorate the 81st Annual National Bible Week, a week in which we celebrate the tremendous influence of the Bible on the freedoms we enjoy today in America.

In 1941, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt declared the week of Thanksgiving to be National Bible Week, on the eve of World War II. In the years since, every President has issued a national proclamation, as have many governors and mayors.

The Bible has had a profound impact on my own life as well. When I was an 18-year old freshman at the University of Kansas, I was approached by some people who asked me if I knew what was in the Bible. I said I believed I knew what it was all about; however, I had never read any of it for myself.

The only honest thing I could do at that point was to read it for myself. So when I read the gospel of John, I ended up discovering a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, who became my Lord and Savior.

In that gospel, He said, "I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father but through me."

So we recognize the Bible's powerful message of hope. We cherish the wisdom of the Bible. We acknowledge its profound role in the founding of our country; and we thank God for providing this holy book. It has truly been, as it says, a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path.

We are here, in keeping with tradition, to recognize National Bible Week.

Mr. Speaker, we have a number of fellow Representatives from all across this great country of ours who want to comment on National Bible Week, on the importance of the Bible to them, to their districts, and to the country.

We will go now first with Mr. ROBERT ADERHOLT, and then continue down the list in the order that people arrived here.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. ADERHOLT).

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, it is great to be here today to recognize National Bible Week and, especially, along with my colleague, DOUG LAMBORN from the great State of Colorado.

I appreciate his willingness to organize this this evening and to call attention to a book that has had more impact on world history than any other book I think that has ever been written.

I just want to say that here in this Chamber we are reminded, as we look around, of the influence the Bible has had. I look around the room here and see the reliefs of many lawgivers that were depicted around the top of the ceiling that shows that there were men over the ages that have contributed to the making of laws; and it is, of course, to remind us of what our job here is, to make great laws.

But what strikes me is the one that is over the main door that leads into the House Chamber here in the Capitol, and that is a relief of Moses. The relief of Moses that is behind me is different from the other reliefs there. He is neither looking to the left nor to the right. He is looking straight down, actually, on you, Mr. Speaker.

I don't think it is any coincidence when they designed this room that they had that in mind; that Moses was the great lawgiver because he gave the laws that came from God.

Of course, above the Speaker's chair are the words "In God We Trust." So it is on and on throughout the Capitol building itself you see—we remember that the Bible has such a significant part.

But there is one painting here in the Capitol building that I want to call your attention to, in closing, that a lot of people don't really think about, and that is the signing of the Constitution.

They have seen this painting, but it is here just a few steps from where I stand right now, and it was painted in 1940. The artist was commissioned to design a painting showing the signing of the Constitution in Philadelphia.

In that painting you will see several of the delegates, and most of the delegates are actually depicted in that particular painting. In that particular painting, you have George Washington that is presiding over the signing of the Constitution. You can see Ben Franklin prominently depicted there, and several other of the Founding Fathers that you can see depicted.

But on the far right, at the bottom, you will see one of the delegates there, who was Delegate Robert Morris from Pennsylvania. Unless you look closely at that painting, you may not notice, but he has his elbow on the table and right beside his elbow is a book that is open.

If you are like me, you may have passed by that painting on many occasions but never noticed what that book was about because you just think it is maybe some law book that was open there during that particular time.

But quite honestly, if you look closely at the painting, you can see that it says, "Saint Matthew, Chapter 5." I can't help but believe that during the discussions that day, when they were drawing up the Constitution and signing it, that that particular book of the

Bible had a very significant impact, importance upon the discussion that was made there.

Because of that, I have read through Chapter 5 of Matthew and tried to really sort of figure out what it is that maybe they were talking about that particular day. But I can only guess that one of the verses in Chapter 5 that they may have been paying attention to in particular was the verse that says, don't hide your light under a bushel, and let your light shine before men.

They wanted the United States of America to be a light to the rest of the world. They wanted it to be a city on a hill that would not be hid; and that is exactly what I believe that our Nation has done over the last 250 years.

So Mr. Speaker, it is great to have a chance to talk about the Bible, National Bible Week, and I congratulate my colleague, Congressman LAMBORN, for his work here. I thank him for us being able to draw attention to this book that has really changed the life of so many and, literally, millions of people around the world.

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, secondly, we have the gentleman from Texas, Representative BABIN, and then the gentleman from Mississippi after that.

I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BABIN).

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I wish to thank my good friend from Colorado (Mr. LAMBORN) for having this Special Order for National Bible Week.

Mr. Speaker, I am elated to recognize National Bible Week once again and to share why God's Word is such an immovable pillar, not only in my life, but millions and millions of people's. From guidance and encouragement to past lessons and future promises, the Bible holds the answers to all of it.

Our nation is in the midst of a moral and spiritual war currently, the likes of which we have never seen. The rule of law is being trampled. Men compete in women's sports. Child pornography is used to sell clothing. Babies continue to be murdered, even after a botched abortion.

Now more than ever, the direction of God's Word is crucial. As we maneuver through these woke and morally corrupt times, I pray that we, as a country, the great United States of America, the shining city on a hill, would find our way back to the teachings of Scripture.

America would not even exist today had God's divine providence and written word not stirred the hearts of our Founding Fathers 246 years ago. Only a fool would think that our Nation could ever survive without God.

I will close with a biblical passage, and I pray that we remember Proverbs 3:5-6: "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths."

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, next I yield to the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. GUEST).

Mr. GUEST. President Ronald Reagan once said, "Within the covers of the Bible are the answers for all the problems men face."

The Bible has provided our Nation with wisdom and guidance over our history. Within this Chamber, Members of Congress have gathered to debate and ultimately address the most significant challenges to our country.

Since 1962, we have worked under those simple, yet powerful words, the words etched behind me, "In God We Trust."

Without God's direction, we would have faced these challenges alone. As we face the future, we must never forget that our Nation was founded on biblical principles, recognizing that we are blessed to live in a country that we can worship freely, and we must work to see that we always remain "one nation under God."

Proverbs 3:5-6: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight."

My hope is that all Americans will continue to live by the truth and wisdom found in the word of God. May God continue to bless the United States of America.

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. ROSE).

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. LAMBORN) for yielding and for claiming the time this evening to acknowledge and honor our Nation's 81st National Bible Week.

Mr. Speaker, tomorrow marks 81 years since the world changed forever when Japanese pilots attacked Pearl Harbor, killing 2,403 Americans and pulling America into the Second World War. We will never forget their sacrifices.

The day after that infamous day, the National Broadcasting Company, the leading radio station at the time, began the day with the founders of the National Bible Association. As the news of the gruesome attack on U.S. soil broke, producers at NBC requested that the National Bible Association continue reading the Bible all throughout the day.

Coincidentally, before the attack on Pearl Harbor, President Roosevelt had invited the founders of the National Bible Association to the White House to help commemorate the first National Bible Week. However, they canceled and left a telegram for President Roosevelt stating, "May God bless and guide you in this emergency."

This story reminds me of Mark 13:31, where Jesus says: "Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away."

As we recognize our country's 81st National Bible Week, I remember that although we may choose to leave God's words behind, the Lord's words will never leave us behind.

Every day it seems as though there is a story in the news that shows our

country turning away from God. High school football coaches are being fired for praying on the field. The Bible is no longer being taught in our schools, and it has become almost scandalous to want to live a life practicing the traditional Christian values we are taught in the Bible.

□ 1915

But remember, no matter what, the Lord's words will never pass away. I hope that one day, our country will embrace the Lord again.

As a devoted Christian, I am proud to recognize National Bible Week, and I pray I will be able to bring more souls to know Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. But until then, may God continue to bless our great Nation.

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate what the gentleman had to say. Tomorrow will be the 81st anniversary of Pearl Harbor Day. That day has lived in infamy.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN).

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. LAMBORN for organizing this little group of speeches.

As has been mentioned, the first National Bible Week was less than 2 weeks before Pearl Harbor in 1941. Why do we have a National Bible Week? Because the Bible was the preeminent text of our forefathers when they wrote our Constitution.

To leave you with a couple quotes, George Washington said: "It is impossible to govern the world without God and the Bible. Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, our religion and morality are indispensable supporters."

John Jay, the first Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court: "The Bible is best of all books, for it is the word of God and teaches us the way to be happy in this world and in the next. Continue therefore to read it and regulate your life by its precepts."

Clearly, if you want to understand the Constitution, you have to understand the Bible. That is why John Adams said that the Constitution is made only for a moral and religious people and totally unfit for any other kind.

The most read book or most cited book, by our forefathers, in the Old Testament was Deuteronomy. I have always felt the reason they quoted Deuteronomy so much is they wanted America to be the type of country that God had wanted Israel to be.

Deuteronomy ends with the death of Moses. As has been mentioned, in the relief up here, the wisest man, or the man with the most important position in this room, is Moses, which shows that Congress, even at the time we built this Capitol, talked about the importance of the Bible in understanding what behavior should be and in understanding what our Constitution has made a reference to.

In any event, I thank Congressman LAMBORN one more time for putting to-

gether this ceremony and encourage, particularly all of the young people out there, to read the Bible so you understand the basis of our country.

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his words.

Mr. GROTHMAN mentioned John Adams. I have a great quote here from John Quincy Adams, the younger of the two that became President: "I speak as a man of the world to the men of the world; and I say to you, Search the Scriptures. The Bible is the book of all others, to be read at all ages, and in all conditions of human life; not to be read once or twice or thrice through, and then laid aside, but to be read in small portions of one or two chapters every day, and never to be intermitted, unless by overruling necessity."

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BACON).

Mr. BACON. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman LAMBORN for organizing this Special Order.

I thank God for the Bible. The Bible is God's Word, and it tells us who God is, that He loves us, that He made us and created the world, that He has an eternal plan for us. The Bible gives me hope. It teaches me how to live, love, forgive, be humble, have self-control, and to be kind. It has given me life's roadmap and a compass to steer me right.

Knowing God's eternal plan and that He gave guidelines on how to live, gives me meaning in life. Without meaning, I would not have been able to face the darkest days of my life, like when I lost my best friend and sister. I have lost four siblings and my mom. Without God, I would not have been able to move forward on many of these days. One of my favorite hymns says: "I can face tomorrow because He lives."

My theme verse, that comes from Matthew, says:

Do not store up treasures on Earth, where moth and rust can destroy and where thieves break in and steal. But store up treasures for yourselves in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.

When I was deployed in Iraq in 2007 and 2008 and we were losing so many soldiers, brothers and sisters in arms, I thought of this other verse from Matthew every single day: "Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul."

I knew al-Qaida and the Shia militias could possibly kill me, but I was assured that my soul was secure with God.

When things are not going well, I think of Paul's words when God told him: "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness."

Now that I am in political office, I often apply this verse, one I overlooked much of my life: "Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you."

We are all imperfect and need God's redemption. Thankfully, God sent His only Son to take the punishment of the sins we commit. He saved us. The Bible

says that when we put our faith in Him, we are redeemed.

John Newton famously wrote: "When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun, we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun."

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for sharing that message from the heart, and I appreciate what the Bible has done in his life.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. ALLEN).

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman LAMBORN for arranging this Special Order.

Mr. Speaker, when President Roosevelt convened the inaugural celebration of National Bible Week, as was mentioned, it was 1941. America was still recovering from an economic collapse, and across the sea, war raged in Europe.

It seemed the whole world was shrouded in darkness. But Roosevelt believed that the Bible is an eternal source of hope.

We know that the Bible is life-changing. As mentioned about the news of the attack and as mentioned before, NBC was broadcasting the reading of the Bible; they made a monumental decision during that process. As they were broadcasting the news, during breaks, they would continue to read the Bible. They recognized one simple truth: There is no greater spiritual armor than the Word of God.

So where are we some 81 years later? The pollsters say that 7 in 10 Americans believe that our Nation is in crisis and at the risk of collapse. There continues to be wars and rumors of wars. But I believe, as President Roosevelt believed, in the awesome life-changing power of God's Word.

Ephesians 6 says:

Put on the full armor of God that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

As we look around our Chamber here, fellow Members, we are without excuse. As mentioned earlier, we have "In God We Trust" here. We have lawmakers all around us and, obviously, the full face of Moses, who gave us the first four chapters of the Bible.

Some 40 years later, after National Bible Week was declared, Billy Graham gave this prayer, and I will read part of it. He said: "Our Father and our God, Thou hast said, 'Blessed is that nation whose God is the Lord.' We recognize on this historic occasion that we are 'a nation under God.' We thank Thee for this torch of faith handed to us by our forefathers. May we never let it be extinguished. Thou alone has given us our prosperity, our freedom and our power. This faith in God is our heritage and our foundation."

"Thou has warned us in the Scriptures, 'If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?'"

"As George Washington reminded us in his farewell address, morality and faith are the pillars of our society. We confess these pillars are being eroded in an increasingly materialistic and permissive society. The whole world is watching to see if the faith of our fathers will stand the trials and tests of this hour. Too long we have neglected Thy word and ignored Thy laws. Too long we have tried to solve our problems without reference to Thee. Too long we have tried to live by bread alone. We have sown to the wind and are now reaping the whirlwind of crime, division, and rebellion."

That prayer was given in 1969, and here we are today. So just as we turned to the Bible then, I pray that we will turn to it now.

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Georgia for his words.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER).

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I thank him for sponsoring this Special Order. This is certainly important, important to all of us who are believers, and I count myself as one of those.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of one of the greatest gifts that God has given us, His Word that is the Bible.

As we near the holiday season, we must be mindful of why we celebrate, which is the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

As we enter the Christmas season, it is easy to be consumed by the laundry list of items and tasks that must be completed before you host or travel to see family and friends. It is easy to become lost and forget the true meaning and purpose of Christmas.

Friends and fellow Americans, I urge you to remain grounded in the true story of Christmas, because it is indeed some great news.

Luke Chapter 2, verses 9 through 11, tells us: "An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is the Messiah, the Lord.'"

Wow, what a powerful moment that must have been to the shepherds that night.

The Christmas story is the greatest feel-good story anyone could ever ask for, that no matter how we sin, what we do, or the disagreements we may have, the Lord our God, the living God, sent His one and only Son to die for each of us so that we may all join Him in eternal paradise. Now, that is the awesome Christmas gift.

Thank you to my friend from Colorado for hosting this important Special Order. It is indeed important, particularly during this time of year.

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CAR-

TER) for reminding us of what the reason for the season really is.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CLYDE).

Mr. CLYDE. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman LAMBORN for leading this important Special Order.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and celebration of National Bible Week.

For multiple millennia, the Bible has served as God's revelation to His creation, providing an account of His divine plan. The future hope of glory through the gospel of the Word of God renders guidance to us so that we have the hope of eternal life offered by His grace through faith.

The Bible is also the very reason we can live freely in the United States of America. More than 400 years ago, settlers bound together in search of the New World to escape religious persecution and establish a free government.

Our Founding Fathers wove the Word of God into the very fabric of our Nation, with the Bible playing a critical role in the unity and success of these wise men as they forged a future that is free.

As John Adams once said: "The Bible contains the most profound philosophy, the most perfect morality, and the most refined policy that ever was conceived upon Earth."

It is because of these men that our Lord and Savior's guidance has been key to the preservation of our Republic.

Now, more than two centuries later, I pray this body uses God's Word as our guiding light. Because a government whose foundation is built on God and His Word is a government that will have peace, freedom, and liberty.

□ 1930

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for those thoughts on this commemoration of National Bible Week.

To conclude, Mr. Speaker, I have two more quotes from other Presidents of the United States.

Ronald Reagan, in his own declaration of National Bible Week when he was in office, said: "When I took the oath of office, I requested that my mother's Bible be opened to 2nd Chronicles 7:14, which reads, 'If my people which are called by my name shall humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from Heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land.' This passage expresses my hopes for the future of this Nation and the world."

Lastly, to make this bipartisan, President Truman said during an address at the Attorney General's Conference on Law Enforcement Problems: "The fundamental basis of this Nation's law was given to Moses on the Mount. The fundamental basis of our Bill of Rights comes from the teachings which we get from Exodus and St. Matthew, from Isaiah and St. Paul. I

don't think we emphasize that enough these days."

If that was true in the late 1940s, that is certainly true today.

He continued: "If we don't have the proper fundamental moral background, we will finally end up with a totalitarian government which does not believe in rights for anybody except the State."

I am going to conclude by saying this, Mr. Speaker: It has been an honor and a pleasure to commemorate National Bible Week this evening. I am grateful for all of my colleagues who joined me to honor the Word of God.

The Bible is the single most important book ever written. It has the power to change lives. It has liberated many from oppression by its clear teachings. It is truly an amazing and remarkable piece of writing. It contains pure truth about God, about life, the nature of mankind, and our own hearts as human beings.

I am thankful for the Word of God, the impact that it has had on my life, on the lives of those who have spoken here today, and on the life of our great Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

RECOGNIZING FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF KENTUCKY TORNADOES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. COMER) for 30 minutes.

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 1-year anniversary of the devastating tornadoes that struck my district.

On December 10 and 11, 2021, communities from Fulton to Taylor County endured a fierce, long-track tornado that leveled numerous communities. The damage sustained during the relentless storm was unimaginable, and our prayers are still with the families who lost loved ones.

In the aftermath of this disaster, Kentuckians across the Commonwealth came together to offer help, provide support, and deliver aid when many needed it most.

As the communities continue to rebuild and recover, I want to recognize the local servant leaders and citizens who are helping get our communities back on their feet. As we continue to move forward, I am inspired by their courageous efforts to restore our local communities.

Serving the people of Kentucky's First Congressional District is an honor, and my office remains committed to assisting their recovery efforts in every way.

DAWSON SPRINGS TORNADO RELIEF EFFORT

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the selfless efforts of local Kentuckians who served their community in a time of need.

Todd Marshall, Larry Cavanah, Kent Workman, Zach Willett, Paulette Gray,

Brandon Godbey, Tamara Rice, Abby Garrett, and Gabe Workman answered the call to aid their fellow Kentuckians after the devastating tornado on December 10, 2021.

With their assistance, Dawson Springs Independent school was transformed overnight into the Dawson Springs tornado relief center. As the community began to rebuild and recover, thousands walked through the school's front doors in need of aid.

This group of Kentuckians dedicated their time to help sort over 29,000 pounds of clothing, prepare warm meals each day, and provide families with a Christmas by converting classrooms into departments for women's clothing, men's clothing, baby equipment, and toys.

On behalf of Kentucky's First Congressional District, I express my heartfelt thanks to this group of extraordinary administrators, staff, faculty, and students. Their compassion for our communities did not go unnoticed.

HONORING JUDGE JOHN PHELPS UPON HIS
RETIREMENT

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Judge John Phelps on his retirement as judge executive of Cumberland County, Kentucky.

A native of Cumberland County, John has dedicated his life to bettering his local community and State. After graduating from Cumberland County High School, John married his high school sweetheart, Leslie, and raised a family of four children and four grandchildren in his hometown of Burkesville.

In addition to being a dedicated family man, John served south central Kentucky in various ways throughout his career, including as a well-respected loan officer and realtor before becoming Cumberland County judge executive in 2011.

For over a decade, John served his constituents with honor and humility. In 2020, he was elected president of the Kentucky County Judge/Executive Association. In this role, he led the association in helping judge executives work together to solve common issues and improve their local governments.

I am proud to have worked with Judge John Phelps throughout his career and wish him the very best in a well-deserved retirement.

HONORING JUDGE WADE WHITE ON HIS
RETIREMENT

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor Judge Wade White of Lyon County, Kentucky, who is retiring at the end of the year.

Judge White's dedication to the community has not gone unnoticed. He was first elected to the position in 2010 and then reelected in 2014 and 2018.

In recognition of his service, Judge White has received multiple awards as Lyon County judge executive, including the Keep the Tennessee River Beautiful group's Kentucky Elected Official Ripple Effect award.

He was also inducted into the Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame in 2016 and 2018.

Before taking on his responsibilities as judge executive, he worked for 14 years in several roles for State Farm and Progressive Insurance companies. In fact, President Biden nominated Judge White to serve on the Tennessee Valley Authority board of directors in June of this year.

Judge White has been a passionate advocate for issues impacting our local communities, including Land Between the Lakes, rural broadband access, and our effort to rid local waterways of Asian carp.

When people say the squeaky wheel gets the grease, as the Congressman for Lyon County over the past 6 years, I can tell you that Judge White is the squeaky wheel.

On behalf of Kentucky's First Congressional District, I thank Judge White for his dedicated service to improving our communities.

HONORING JUDGE HOLLIS ALEXANDER UPON HIS
RETIREMENT

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor Judge Executive Hollis Alexander of Trigg County, Kentucky, who is retiring at the end of the year.

Judge Alexander has been a leader and public servant in Trigg County and Cadiz for over three decades.

He has served in various capacities, including working for the Cadiz Fire and Police Departments, the Trigg County Ambulance Service and Sheriff's Office, and the Pennyrile Narcotics Task Force.

Before serving in his current position, Judge Alexander was the chief of the Cadiz Police Department for 16 years, from 1996 to 2012. After being appointed Trigg County judge in 2012, he was reelected in 2014 and 2018.

Judge Alexander has been a vocal advocate for Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area and important issues concerning rural Kentucky.

On behalf of Kentucky's First Congressional District, I thank Judge Alexander for his commitment to and passion for improving our communities.

RECOGNIZING BART ROWLAND UPON HIS
RETIREMENT

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize my good friend, Bart Rowland, upon his retirement from the Kentucky House of Representatives.

Bart served Monroe, Cumberland, Metcalfe, Green, Hart, and Hardin Counties as their voice in Frankfort for 10 years.

Bart was a very well-respected member of the Kentucky General Assembly who quickly rose the ranks to become chairman of the Kentucky House Banking and Insurance Committee. As chairman, Bart passed many bills that improved the entire financial services industry in Kentucky.

Bart was elected for the first time in 2012 during a special election, which happened as a result of his predecessor being elected Kentucky Commissioner of Agriculture. Mr. Speaker, I was Bart's predecessor, and I can say with confidence that the people of my home

area never had a better State representative than Bart Rowland.

Bart and his wife, Jerri, and their three kids reside in Tompkinsville, Kentucky. On behalf of everyone who Bart has represented so well over the past decade, I wish him and his family the very best in the next chapter of their lives.

ROLE OF HOUSE OVERSIGHT AND REFORM
COMMITTEE

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to discuss an issue today that has been in the news a lot over the last few weeks, and it pertains to the role of the House Oversight and Reform Committee. God willing, January 3, I will take command as chairman of the House Oversight and Reform Committee.

My goal, as I have said to just about every media outlet that has asked about it, I want to bring the House Oversight and Reform Committee back to its original intent. The intent of the House Oversight and Reform Committee is to eliminate waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement in the Federal Government, and I believe when we look around in the Federal Government, we see a whole lot of waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement.

When asked about my priorities as the next chairman of the House Oversight and Reform Committee, I want to talk about my first priority, and that is to get the backs of the taxpayers of the United States of America.

Just in the name of COVID, over the past 3 years, Mr. Speaker, so that spans two administrations, this body has been reckless in its spending in the name of COVID. When you look at all the stimulus bills, all the stimulus programs, all the giveaways, those dollar amounts run into the trillions of dollars.

Now, we can talk about all the money and go down line by line, and we will see a lot of success stories. Take the PPP loan program, for example. There are some great success stories in there. I don't think anyone in this body, regardless of their ideology, regardless of whether we are rural, urban, suburban, whatever, wouldn't argue that, during COVID, there were industries that suffered far worse than other industries.

For example, anything in the tourism or travel industry, obviously, was devastated, whether they be the airline companies, whether they be hotels, whether they be anything pertaining to leisure travel. The PPP loan program was a lifesaver for many of those businesses.

When we had the very brief debate on the PPP loan program, the goal was to help businesses keep people working during the government shutdown by supplementing and subsidizing their payrolls, which was noble because if you look at it, the government was going to pay for it one way or the other, either in the form of PPP loans or in the form of unemployment insurance.

So, we had to step up in this body. But, like this body does time after time after time, there were not sufficient guardrails on that program. We have stories coming in every day by various media outlets, by various investigative reporters, by various oversight mainly and almost exclusively by Republican committees in this body that will show that there were fraudulent businesses that didn't even exist that got millions and millions of dollars alone.

We will find that there were businesses that had record years during COVID. They never missed a beat. They never had a layoff. They had record years. They got millions and millions of dollars.

We even read just this week how many law firms in America that never missed a beat during COVID got huge PPP loans. We even read that Hunter Biden's former law firm got over \$10 million in PPP loans despite never missing a beat.

So, in this congressional body, in this House of Representatives, who in the majority has been providing oversight over the PPP loan program? It has not been the House Oversight and Reform Committee.

□ 1945

We have been investigating the Washington Commanders. We have been investigating what the world would look like if the United States passed the Equal Rights Amendment. We have had bills on white supremacy. We have had bills on abortion.

What we haven't had bills on is oversight.

During the prior 2 years when the House flipped the last time and the Democrats took the majority in the House Oversight Committee, there were dozens and dozens of high-level Trump cabinet secretaries and appointees that testified before the House Oversight Committee. Dozens and dozens. I want to say in the upper thirties.

Fast forward to the last 2 years of the Biden administration. Do you know how many cabinet secretaries and undersecretaries have testified in front of the House Oversight Committee?

Zero. Zero. That is going to change on January 3.

Back to COVID, which is what I want to have as the first hearing of the Oversight Committee. We have had programs that have gone unchecked. We have made mistakes in this body, like this body always does, especially when we rush bills, and we don't read bills and we must pass bills.

Then you look at the unemployment insurance extension. Most of these programs were administered by the States. But the States were getting money and mandates from the Federal Government.

And now guess what we are learning, Mr. Speaker?

We are learning that there were hundreds of thousands of fraudulent unemployment claims, maybe millions. It is

estimated that as many as 25 percent of all the extended unemployment that this body continued to approve went by the way of fraud; many to foreign countries.

Who has been looking into that in the House of Representatives over the past year and a half?

Not the House Oversight Committee. I haven't seen a committee in here that has been checking into that. So that is going to be our role.

Then you look at the stimulus money. The hospitals. I love hospitals. I have 29 hospitals in my Congressional District; I would say as many as anybody in this body. Hospitals received a lot of money. The list goes on and on and on. State and local money.

We had jurisdiction on the House Oversight Committee. \$350 billion with no guardrails. That is what we kept saying, no guardrails on the State and local money.

Who has been looking into that?

Not the House Oversight Committee. But that is going to change on January 3.

So we have a lot of challenges in our quest to get the backs of the American taxpayers. We want to identify waste. We want to identify fraud. We want to identify abuse. We want to hold people accountable for abuse and fraud.

We would love to try to claw some of this money back. And in some instances Secret Service with some of the fraud has been able to claw some of the money back that was spent fraudulently in the name of COVID.

So all the COVID money that was spent is going to be a priority for the House Oversight Committee.

We are also going to have a huge interest in the debacle at the southern border, Mr. Speaker. When you look at what is going on on the border—and there has been no shortage of floor speeches on this side of the aisle in the past 2 years about that—we are concerned about some of the decisions that have been made at the top. We have been to the border, the Republicans on the House Oversight Committee, many times. I have several members of the committee that represent border States. We have heard from Border Patrol agents. And I will tell you, Mr. Speaker, what we have heard from Border Patrol agents is very concerning, especially about conversations they have had with Secretary Mayorkas.

In a recent trip to the southern border, about a week or so ago, Leader MCCARTHY announced that investigating the potential wrongdoing at the southern border would be a priority in the next Congress and that Mr. JORDAN and Mr. COMER would oversee the investigation. We are going to do that. We are going to do that on day one.

Then we look at other hearings that have been in the news that—I don't think it is any secret, and I will conclude with this one, Mr. Speaker—we talk about the Biden family influence-peddling investigation.

Now, there are some media outlets that have done a very good job of re-

porting accurately what the purpose of this investigation is.

And then there are a whole lot of media outlets that have blown this off, and they say this is the Hunter Biden laptop investigation.

That is not true and let me be very clear. This is an investigation of the President of the United States to determine whether or not he and his administration is compromised because of the millions and millions of dollars that they have received from our adversaries in China, Russia, Ukraine, and even the Middle East.

We look at all the decisions that this administration has made that we scratch our heads and say, Why would they do this? Why would they do that? Why would they cancel the Keystone pipeline? Why would they cut off drilling? Why would they make it harder to get permits? Why are they going to Saudi Arabia begging for more oil? Why are we trying to force electric vehicles on the Postal Service fleet and the government. And why are we doing all of this stuff?

Then you look at some of the business dealings that the President's family was involved in, and the one that strikes me as the most concerning, Mr. Speaker, was the one with CEFC China Energy, which was a Chinese energy company.

Then Hudson West, which was the company that the President's son was involved with, a company that the President's son also asked for keys to be made because of his partner coming in, which happened to be the current President of the United States.

But regardless, there was a map of the United States of America on that laptop. It was in Chinese, and it had all these major natural gas suppliers listed. The objective was to help this Chinese energy company not only purchase American liquefied natural gas, but also, to help this Chinese company start taking ownership in the drillers of natural gas in the United States.

Now, let's think about that. There is outrage in this body, there is outrage in America over China buying farmland in the Dakotas. Here we have an effort by the Biden family to help China take ownership of an American energy industry. I find that concerning, Mr. Speaker.

We have been criticized for wanting to investigate this by many in the mainstream media, and I find that ironic, considering that in the last administration there were many investigations. In fact, they are still investigating the last administration.

Now, I am not going to comment on the last administration, whether these investigations are warranted or not. It is not up to me to decide.

What I will say is we are going to investigate any potential wrongdoing in this White House. And at the very least, we are going to let the American people know exactly what was going on within this family. It is not just the President's son, it is the President's

brothers, as well. This was a family business. They didn't manufacture anything. They weren't licensed to sell anything. They don't own any real estate. They don't have any employees.

What was the business? I would argue it is influence pedaling. But we are going to investigate that and see.

So the one challenge I have, and that we will have providing oversight from this side of the aisle on, is to restore confidence in congressional oversight, because let's just be honest, Mr. Speaker—and I blame both parties for this—congressional oversight doesn't have a lot of credibility.

We have had a lot of high-profile hearings over the past decade that really haven't, unfortunately, amounted to a whole lot. There has been a lot of fishing, a lot of hearings, a lot of outrage, a lot of tax dollars spent. Some pretty good information has been recovered, but at the end of the day, not a lot has happened.

I blame, again, both parties, particularly the current chairman of the House Intelligence Committee because many of his investigations were based on things that we now know, like the Steele dossier, were not true.

So this investigation with the President of the United States is based on interviews that we have already had. This is based on documents that we have, many in that laptop, which by the way, The Washington Post has confirmed is a legitimate laptop. Then when the White House and the Democratic National Committee came out and said, oh, well, that may be the President's son's laptop, but it has been compromised; there has been a folder added. CBS News did a forensic audit and proved that that is a legitimate hard drive that has not—and I repeat—has not been tampered with.

Now, we find out from Elon Musk that there were people involved in the President's campaign, involved in the Democratic National Committee, and I fear involved in high levels of the Government—we haven't gotten to that yet, but stay tuned—that were telling everyone, especially in the social media companies, oh, that is not true, that is Russian disinformation. Very concerning because one must ask oneself: Why were they doing that? What is on that computer?

And don't tell me, Mr. Speaker, it is a bunch of pictures and videos. I don't care about the pictures and videos. It is the data on there about the Biden family influence pedaling with our adversaries across the globe.

That, Mr. Speaker, is why the House Oversight Committee will investigate the President of the United States for any potential wrongdoing and try to determine whether or not this administration is compromised.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for the time today. I thank you for the opportunity to tell the American people a little bit about what the House Oversight Committee's goals and objectives are in the next Congress.

We have a big job. Not only do we have trillions of dollars to try to account for what has been misappropriated, misspent, abused in this body, we also have a lot of investigations to conduct while at the same time trying to restore credibility for congressional investigation.

I look forward to working with every Member of this body, Mr. Speaker, and I yield back the balance of my time.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 1 of House Resolution 1230, the House stands adjourned until 2 p.m. tomorrow.

Thereupon (at 7 o'clock and 58 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, December 7, 2022, at 2 p.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-6081. A letter from the President and Chair, Board of Directors, Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting a statement with regard to a transaction; to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC-6082. A letter from the President and Chair, Board of Directors, Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting a statement with regard to a transaction; to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC-6083. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Report to Congress on FY 2023 Allocations for CHIPS Act International Technology Security and Innovation Fund, November 2022, pursuant to Public Law 117-167, Sec. 102(c)(3)(A); (136 Stat. 1376); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-6084. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Annual Report on the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship Program, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2462 note; Public Law 106-309, Sec. 304; (114 Stat. 1095); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-6085. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Document Report Number 004005; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-6086. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: DDTC 22-053, pursuant to Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-6087. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: DDTC 22-018, pursuant to Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-6088. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: DDTC 22-054, pursuant to Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-6089. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a determination under section 506(a)(1) of the For-

eign Assistance Act of 1961; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-6090. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a Report to Congress on U.S. Compliance with the Authorization for Use of Military Force in Iraq Section 4 of the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002 (Public Law 107-243) (50 USC 1541) for the period from July 6, 2022, to September 4, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-6091. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's Agency Financial Report for fiscal year 2022, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3515(a)(1); Public Law 101-576, Sec. 303(a)(1) (as amended by Public Law 107-289, Sec. 2(a)); (116 Stat. 2049); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC-6092. A letter from the Board Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting the Administration's Office of Inspector General Semiannual Report to Congress covering the period of April 1, 2022, through September 30, 2022; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC-6093. A letter from the Chairman, Vice Chairman, and Board Member, National Credit Union Administration, transmitting the Administration's Office of Inspector General Semiannual Report to Congress covering the period of April 1, 2022, through September 30, 2022; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC-6094. A letter from the Chair, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the Commission's Office of Inspector General semiannual report for the period April 1, 2022 through September 30, 2022, and Management Report, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC-6095. A letter from the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting the Civil Rights Division's Legislative Proposals for the 117th Congress on Human Trafficking; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-6096. A letter from the Regulation Development Coordinator, Office of Regulation Policy and Management, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department's interim final rule with request for comments — Reproductive Health Services (RIN: 2900-AR57) received December 6, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. MCGOVERN: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 1508. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3648) to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to eliminate the per-country numerical limitation for employment-based immigrants, to increase the per-country numerical limitation providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 7946) to provide benefits for noncitizen members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; and for other purposes (Rep. 117-590). Referred to the House Calendar.

Ms. WILD: Committee on Ethics. In the Matter of Allegations Relating to Representative Madison Cawthorn (Rep. 117-591). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. BOST (for himself, Mr. ISSA, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, Mr. BERGMAN, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. CAWTHORN, Ms. MACE, Mr. ELLZEY, Ms. CONWAY, and Mrs. HARSHBARGER):

H.R. 9430. A bill to amend the Honoring our PACT Act of 2022 to establish a maximum amount of attorney fees for suits against the United States relating to water at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. BASS (for herself, Ms. NORTON, and Ms. PRESSLEY):

H.R. 9431. A bill to enable incarcerated persons to petition a Federal court for a second look at sentences longer than 10 years, where the person is not a danger to the safety of any person or the community and has shown they are ready for reentry, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BOWMAN (for himself and Mr. WEBER of Texas):

H.R. 9432. A bill to establish the Airborne Wind Energy Research and Development Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. CICILLINE:

H.R. 9433. A bill to provide for the establishment of a Commission on the Advancement of Social Enterprise, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. DESAULNIER:

H.R. 9434. A bill to establish a grant program to incentivize the energy resilience of air carrier airports to acquire or install solar photovoltaic panels, battery storage systems, microgrids, and related electric infrastructure for on-site renewable energy generation and storage, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. GAETZ:

H.R. 9435. A bill to take certain actions with respect to Saudi Arabia in response to the shootings that occurred at Naval Air Station Pensacola in Florida on December 6, 2019; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Foreign Affairs, and Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GOOD of Virginia:

H.R. 9436. A bill to codify the Department of Labor rule regarding religious exemptions to the equal opportunity clause, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. GREEN of Texas:

H.R. 9437. A bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to require covered issuers to carry out a racial equity audit every 2 years, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. JACOBS of New York:

H.R. 9438. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to impose a tax on foreign-owned under-utilized residential real property; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. KILMER:

H.R. 9439. A bill to ensure progress toward the fulfillment by the Federal Government of its trust and treaty obligations to Native Americans and Tribal governments, to ensure funding for programs for Native Americans and Tribal governments, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees

on the Budget, the Judiciary, Energy and Commerce, Education and Labor, Financial Services, Veterans' Affairs, Transportation and Infrastructure, and Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY:

H.R. 9440. A bill to provide consumer protections for students; to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committees on Armed Services, and Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MFUME (for himself, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. PORTER, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. EVANS, Mr. CARSON, Ms. BROWN of Ohio, and Mr. CARTER of Louisiana):

H.R. 9441. A bill to direct the National Institute of Justice to collect, study, and analyze online content created by mass shooters in an effort to early identify potential mass shooters; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. PELTOLA:

H.R. 9442. A bill to designate the medical center of the Department of Veterans Affairs located in Anchorage, Alaska, as the "Colonel Mary Louise Rasmuson Campus of the Alaska VA Healthcare System", and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. SCHNEIDER (for himself, Mr. CROW, and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H.R. 9443. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to provide loan guarantees for the acquisition of cybersecurity technology and services by eligible small businesses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Ms. SPEIER (for herself, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, and Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida):

H.R. 9444. A bill to strengthen the rights of crime victims, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. TIFFANY:

H.R. 9445. A bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to revise the shareholder threshold for registration under that Act for issuers that receive support through certain Federal universal service support mechanisms, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. TONKO (for himself and Mrs. BICE of Oklahoma):

H.R. 9446. A bill to direct the Secretary of Energy to conduct a program of research, development, demonstration, and commercial application with respect to clean hydrogen and fuel cell energy, low-emission fuels, and coproducts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. ESPAILLAT (for himself, Ms. SALAZAR, and Mr. SIREs):

H. Res. 1509. A resolution reaffirming the partnership between the United States and the Dominican Republic and advancing opportunities to deepen diplomatic, economic, and security cooperation between the two nations; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Mr. MCGOVERN introduced A bill (H.R. 9447) for the relief of Terence George; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. BOST:

H.R. 9430.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, which states "[t]he Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States; but all duties, imposts and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States".

By Ms. BASS:

H.R. 9431.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 1 of the United States Constitution, providing—"All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives."

By Mr. BOWMAN:

H.R. 9432.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. CICILLINE:

H.R. 9433.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1

By Mr. DESAULNIER:

H.R. 9434.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8.

By Mr. GAETZ:

H.R. 9435.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Commerce Clause to Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution, which gives Congress the power "to regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes.

By Mr. GOOD of Virginia:

H.R. 9436.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8

By Mr. GREEN of Texas:

H.R. 9437.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. JACOBS of New York:

H.R. 9438.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article I, Section 8

By Mr. KILMER:

H.R. 9439.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 1 provides Congress with the power to "lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises" in order to "provide for the . . . general Welfare of the United States."

PRIVATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

By Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY:
H.R. 9440.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8
By Mr. MFUME:
H.R. 9441.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, which gives Congress the power to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mrs. PELTOLA:
H.R. 9442.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18. The Necessary and Proper Clause

By Mr. SCHNEIDER:
H.R. 9443.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8
By Ms. SPEIER:
H.R. 9444.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. TIFFANY:
H.R. 9445.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. TONKO:
H.R. 9446.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18: The Congress shall have power to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. MCGOVERN:
H.R. 9447.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clauses 4 and 18 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 821: Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 1284: Mr. LATURNER.
H.R. 1384: Ms. PRESSLEY.
H.R. 1474: Ms. PRESSLEY.
H.R. 1626: Mr. SESSIONS.
H.R. 1933: Mr. JACOBS of New York.
H.R. 1986: Ms. TITUS.
H.R. 2050: Mr. HARDER of California.
H.R. 2082: Mr. GOLDEN.
H.R. 2143: Ms. KUSTER and Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 2219: Mr. SESSIONS.
H.R. 2252: Ms. VELÁZQUEZ and Ms. SCHRIER.
H.R. 2325: Mr. CARSON.
H.R. 2489: Mr. FOSTER.
H.R. 2549: Mr. HARDER of California.
H.R. 2974: Mr. CLYDE.
H.R. 3031: Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 3549: Mr. LYNCH.
H.R. 3823: Mr. GROTHMAN.
H.R. 3860: Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota.
H.R. 4141: Ms. WILD, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, and Ms. KUSTER.
H.R. 4268: Mr. PETERS.
H.R. 4750: Mr. RYAN of New York.
H.R. 4833: Mr. PASCRELL.
H.R. 4917: Mr. NADLER.
H.R. 4934: Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 5232: Ms. BARRAGAN.
H.R. 5326: Mr. JOYCE of Ohio.
H.R. 5399: Mr. SESSIONS.
H.R. 5444: Ms. JACOBS of California.
H.R. 5459: Mr. CASTEN.
H.R. 5606: Ms. CLARKE of New York and Ms. BARRAGAN.
H.R. 5607: Mr. BEYER and Mr. CROW.
H.R. 5660: Ms. MANNING.
H.R. 5799: Mr. PAPPAS.
H.R. 5800: Mr. PAPPAS.
H.R. 5874: Mr. LOUDERMILK.
H.R. 6060: Mr. FINSTAD.
H.R. 6111: Mr. PASCRELL.
H.R. 6155: Mr. SESSIONS.
H.R. 6226: Mr. HILL.
H.R. 6532: Ms. TLAIB.
H.R. 6590: Mr. GOODEN of Texas.
H.R. 6610: Mr. SESSIONS.
H.R. 6706: Mr. SESSIONS.
H.R. 6913: Mr. MEUSER.
H.R. 7287: Mr. SESSIONS.
H.R. 7382: Mr. TRONE.
H.R. 7438: Mr. LAMALFA.
H.R. 7637: Mrs. FISCHBACH.
H.R. 7647: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. PINGREE, and Mr. MORELLE.
H.R. 7744: Ms. HOULAHAN.
H.R. 7983: Mr. SESSIONS.
H.R. 8018: Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. GUEST, and Mr. PAPPAS.
H.R. 8105: Ms. CHU.
H.R. 8143: Mr. SESSIONS.
H.R. 8190: Mrs. TRAHAN.

H.R. 8355: Mr. SESSIONS.
H.R. 8356: Mr. SESSIONS.
H.R. 8585: Ms. PORTER.
H.R. 8609: Mr. SESSIONS.
H.R. 8616: Mr. CASTRO of Texas and Mr. FOSTER.
H.R. 8654: Mr. KEATING.
H.R. 8708: Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. ALLRED, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. PORTER, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. KUSTER, Ms. SLOTKIN, and Ms. SÁNCHEZ.
H.R. 8747: Mr. GROTHMAN.
H.R. 8981: Mr. SIMPSON.
H.R. 9035: Mr. CLINE.
H.R. 9096: Ms. MANNING.
H.R. 9105: Ms. JACKSON LEE.
H.R. 9179: Ms. SPANBERGER.
H.R. 9187: Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 9229: Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 9234: Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 9243: Mr. KEATING and Mr. SHERMAN.
H.R. 9265: Mr. GOOD of Virginia.
H.R. 9275: Mr. WITTMAN and Mr. KILDEE.
H.R. 9307: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 9312: Mr. SESSIONS, Ms. VAN DUYN, Mr. BABIN, and Mr. BURGESS.
H.R. 9319: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 9324: Ms. GARCIA of Texas.
H.R. 9374: Mr. KEATING and Mr. CONNOLLY.
H.R. 9379: Mr. COLE.
H.R. 9389: Mrs. BICE of Oklahoma.
H.R. 9403: Mr. HUFFMAN.
H.J. Res. 13: Mr. CLOUD.
H. Con. Res. 65: Mr. MOORE of Utah.
H. Con. Res. 110: Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. AGUILAR, Mr. BLUMENAUER, and Mr. RUTHERFORD.
H. Res. 1002: Mr. SESSIONS.
H. Res. 1245: Ms. CHU and Mr. SHERMAN.
H. Res. 1317: Mr. EVANS, Mr. LYNCH, and Mr. BOWMAN.
H. Res. 1329: Mr. GOODEN of Texas.
H. Res. 1445: Mr. CLINE.
H. Res. 1481: Mr. LOWENTHAL and Ms. SHERRILL.
H. Res. 1504: Ms. ADAMS, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, and Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.

PETITIONS, ETC.

Under clause 3 of rule XII,
PT-155. The SPEAKER presented a petition of Holland and Allred, Certified Public Accountants, Bishop, California, relative to a copy of the correspondence to the Internal Revenue Service regarding a taxpayer's 2020 individual income tax return; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 117th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 168

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2022

No. 189

Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

PRAYER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The guest chaplain, Bishop Christopher Coyne of Vermont, the Diocese of Burlington, will offer the prayer.

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

God of hope and God of peace, from whom all blessings flow, may Your spirit of peace and wisdom descend upon all here present for the work of the Senate. May each of us seek to serve the common good of all, both in our great Nation and in the world at large.

And send some snow upon the ski slopes of Vermont soon.

We ask this in Your Holy Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will pro-

ceed to executive session and resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Frances Kay Behm, of Michigan, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Michigan.

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. PETERS). Without objection, it is so ordered.

WELCOMING THE GUEST CHAPLAIN

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, we have so many things going on in Washington these days, with just about everything from budgetary matters to wrapping up this session of the Congress.

I was delighted today to take a step back and, in my role as President pro tempore, introduce today's visiting Chaplain. I am always pleased to introduce the Chaplain, usually Dr. Barry Black, sometimes visiting ones, but this one is special.

He is the bishop of Burlington, which, really, the diocese covers all the State of Vermont. His name is Christopher Coyne. He knows our part of New England. He was born in Woburn, MA, and graduated from the University of Massachusetts with a B.A. in business, St. John's Seminary in Boston as a Master of Divinity, ordained a priest in June 1989, but then has fulfilled significant roles, both in the diocese where he originated and with the Vatican in Rome. And I will talk more about that at another time.

But he was elected chairman of the Committee of Communications of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

And when the bishops met, the voice you often heard was Bishop Coyne because of his credibility, his honesty, and the fact that he would give very direct answers.

And then Pope Francis named him bishop of the Diocese of Burlington, and he was installed in that January 29, 2015, and brought a new, really, wave of enthusiasm into the Catholic diocese in Vermont. He made it a point to go around the State meeting with people.

I would tell a personal story. I was at an event in Burlington on Veterans Day. I was going to be speaking there. And a jogger came up and tapped me on the shoulder. It was the bishop. He was out doing his morning run and walk. But it is something that is interrupted all the time because he will stop and talk with everybody, and they want to talk with him.

He is the kind of bishop every diocese should have: approachable, honest, good for the community. He has reached out to the Jewish community, the Protestant community. It has brought enthusiasm on both sides.

I see our distinguished majority leader on the floor who has been working hard the last few days on too many things, but I know he will get us through it, and I will do my part on the appropriations.

Mr. Leader, I just wanted to say a word about our distinguished visiting Chaplain Bishop Coyne, taking advantage of the privileges of the floor, sitting over there, and I will yield the floor and yield to you.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I thank Senator LEAHY for so many things he does, including his recent brief remarks a few minutes ago. We all know how much we are going to miss Senator LEAHY in this body and what a tower of strength and accomplishment he has been. But we will

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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have more to say about that even—tonight or tomorrow night?—tomorrow night at the retirement dinner.

JUDICIAL NOMINATIONS

Today, Mr. President, the Senate reaches an important milestone. We will confirm our 89th and 90th judicial nominees to serve lifetime appointments on the Federal bench. Starting at noon, the Senate will hold a total of four rollcall votes throughout the afternoon on the nominations of Frances Behm to the Eastern District of Michigan and Kelley Hodge to the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

We are on pace to finish this year with more judges confirmed to the bench than were confirmed in the first 2 years of either of the previous two administrations. These nominees stand out not just in their numbers but also in their groundbreaking diversity. Almost 50 percent of the judges we have confirmed are women of color—50 percent. That has never happened before, and I am confident that a more diverse bench will go a long way in cultivating trust in our courts and in our democracy.

Just as important, once we confirm the nominations of Tamika Montgomery-Reeves and Dana Douglas very soon, the Senate will also have confirmed a total of 11 Black women to serve as appellate judges, by far the most ever under any single President.

Before President Biden, only 8 such nominees had been confirmed in total, and now, in our first 2 years, we are already on the brink of confirming 11.

Today, our Federal judiciary is far more balanced, far more diverse, and far more experienced than the one our country had 2 years ago. It is something we are very proud of. You can rest assured, Mr. President, that Senate Democrats are going to maintain this priority on judges as the 118th Congress begins next year.

GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Mr. President, on government funding, off the floor, negotiations continue between both parties on charting a path toward fully funding the government for the next fiscal year. I spent much of the day yesterday going from one meeting to the next, sitting down first with Leader McCONNELL and his team and then with Speaker PELOSI and her team, and I stayed on the phone throughout the evening as Senators worked to bridge the gap on funding.

We are working very hard on getting something done before the deadline, but there is a lot of negotiating left to do. Both sides understand that fully funding the government is extremely important and anything less risks harm to our troops and the Federal Government's ability to serve the public. We don't want to see that outcome so both sides must remain at the table and continue working.

Tomorrow, Senators will attend a classified briefing on the latest developments on the war in Ukraine. I hope it sinks in for all Members in attend-

ance just how critical U.S. aid has been, not just for our allies but for our own protection. I hope it sinks in that this is one of the most important reasons why we must reach an agreement.

It is not an easy process, but it is supremely important nonetheless. For the well-being of our troops, for the preservation of our national security, and for the tens of millions of Americans who look to the Federal Government for a wide range of basic services, Democrats and Republicans must work together to fully fund the Federal Government.

CHIPS AND SCIENCE ACT

Mr. President, now on CHIPS and Science, today, President Biden will be in Arizona to visit the construction site for what will become one of the largest chip manufacturing plants in America. What was originally announced to be a \$12 billion investment will now be a \$40 billion project, with the first chip fab set to open a year from now.

This is one of the highly visible examples of how the bipartisan CHIPS and Science Act is already paying dividends for the economy, for job creators, and for American workers. It is a good sign for a new age of chip manufacturing in this country.

We used to lead the world in making microchips, and thanks to the CHIPS and Science Act, we are already seeing the types of investments that will make America a major hub—the major hub, hopefully—for chip manufacturing once again.

The construction site that President Biden visits today is just one example of some very exciting activity happening all across the country. In my home State of New York, Micron has pledged up to \$100 billion over the next two decades to build state-of-the-art semiconductor fabs in New York. Another major company, GlobalFoundries, has announced they will build a second fab in the Albany region of Upstate New York.

Of course, the benefits extend across America. We are seeing chipmakers announce multibillion-dollar investments in States ranging from Ohio to Colorado, to Texas, to Arizona—the Arizona one MARK KELLY did a great job of championing—to Idaho. In nearly all cases, executives have explicitly cited the passage of CHIPS and Science as a major factor in their decision to build big in America.

Though these many investments range in size and type, the bottom line on CHIPS and Science is this: more American jobs, increased American manufacturing, a stronger American economy in the long run. This bill is about innovating and building the future in the United States, not in the hands of the Chinese Communist Party.

As always, I thank my colleagues from both sides of the aisle who pushed this bill over the finish line. We are already reaping the immense benefits, and there will be many more to come.

CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL CEREMONY

Mr. President, before I conclude, I want to acknowledge that this is a solemn and special day here at the Capitol. Later this morning, congressional leadership will gather to award the Congressional Gold Medal in honor of the brave men and women of the U.S. Capitol Police and the Metropolitan Police Department who defended the Capitol on January 6.

On that day, democracy faced maximum danger. These heroes responded with maximum valor, and all of us in the Senate and across the Capitol Complex are forever—forever—in their debt.

I will have more to say when I speak this morning at the Rotunda, but for now, I want to say thank you to Senators KLOBUCHAR and BLUNT, the chair and ranking member of the Senate Rules Committee, who worked together on legislation to award the gold medal to these highly worthy public servants. This award would not be possible without the work of Senators KLOBUCHAR and BLUNT, and I commend them for their work.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The Republican leader is recognized.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, well, here we are, again, into the month of December with crucial business unfinished. Republicans spent months urging the Democratic majority not to neglect this year's National Defense Authorization Act, not to leave our Armed Forces to the last minute.

Five months ago, I called on our colleagues to process the Defense bill as soon as possible; but, instead, the majority has prioritized not just gigantic partisan spending sprees, but also a parade of mid-level nominations.

The Democratic leader didn't even bring a Senate NDAA to the floor, forcing Senators REED and INHOFE to conduct an informal conference with the House with a weakened hand. When the Republicans controlled the government, we put our servicemembers first.

In 2017, the Senate passed our version of NDAA in September, and we had voice-voted the conference report by Thanksgiving. In 2018, the Republican Senate was completely finished with NDAA by early August. But on Democrats' watch, the Senate's schedule has not matched the Nation's needs. We have spent time on less important matters while both the authorization and funding for our servicemembers have languished until the eleventh hour.

Even now—even now—House and Senate Democrats are still obstructing

efforts to close out the NDAA by trying to jam in unrelated items with no relationship whatsoever to defense. We are talking about a grab bag of miscellaneous pet priorities—like making our financial system more sympathetic to illegal drugs or the phony partisan-permitting reform in-name-only language that has already failed to pass the Senate earlier this year.

If Democrats wanted these controversial items so badly, they had 2 years to move them across the floor. Heck, they could have scheduled those matters for votes this week. But, no, we are doing more mid-level nominations while Democrats keep half-threatening to take our Armed Forces hostage over these extraneous matters.

So there is an old saying that goes “Poor planning on your part does not necessitate an emergency on the part of other people.” The Democrats’ failure to plan ahead for unrelated liberal pet priorities should not be creating uncertainty and confusion for the brave servicemembers who keep us safe.

My colleagues across the aisle need to cut their unrelated hostage-taking and put a bipartisan NDAA on the floor.

TRIBUTE TO ROY BLUNT

Mr. President, now, on another matter, my friend and our distinguished colleague ROY BLUNT is one of us whose political careers began at the most local level. As a 20-something-year-old county clerk, ROY’s career in government required real hands-on public service right from the beginning. Fortunately, hard work and rolled-up sleeves weren’t foreign concepts for ROY. After all, before our friend became the first in his family to finish college, he grew up on a dairy farm.

And for decades now, that doggedness and persistence have served ROY’s neighbors exceptionally well. Green County’s young clerk, a former high school history teacher, fell short in his first campaign for higher statewide office. But a few years later, he handily became the first Republican Secretary of State Missouri had seen in half a century. After 8 years there and then 4 as a university president, ROY was already a seasoned veteran, firing on all cylinders, when he arrives in the House of Representatives in 1997.

Little wonder that, after just three terms, ROY became the newest representative to be voted House majority whip in 80 years. So, clearly, ROY had a big-time reputation for getting things done before he moved across the rotunda here to the Senate. When he won his election in 2010, all his colleagues knew our team was getting an all-star.

And, sure enough, in 6 years from freshman status to House leadership, he set a modern land speed record on that side of the Capitol. Then over here, ROY broke the sound barrier. He joined our conference’s leadership team 1 year after he became a Senator.

The record of accomplishments ROY has racked up reflects the fusion of

focus, detail-mindedness, and a rare knack for broader strategy and management. Time after time, Senator BLUNT has thrown himself into the weeds of policy, achieved total fluency in the details, and then climbed back up to 30,000 feet to make a strategic decision that would actually move the ball down the field.

Case in point: I believe ROY is the only Rules Committee chair in history to have actually served as his State’s top elections official. He knows the ins and outs of voting issues as well as anyone. He knows that the Federal role in our elections is both important but also very limited. He understands the big picture, the fine details, and everything in between.

The leaders of Rules also have huge ceremonial duties as the Capitol organizes the Presidential Inauguration every 4 years.

I have it on good authority that in both 2017 and 2021, when ROY headed up the ceremonies, our resident history buff handwrote every word of his speeches himself, longhand—names, dates, historical references, quotations, all straight from his pen, and it all passed his team’s careful fact-checking without a drop of red ink.

Now, those ceremonial duties bear mentioning, in part because taking center stage is such a departure from the way ROY normally tackles his business. Working methodically and diligently, building consensus behind the scenes, Missouri’s senior Senator has steered hundreds of millions of dollars toward improving transportation infrastructure at the crossroads of the American heartland.

He has reached across the aisle repeatedly to improve workforce development for American veterans. He has worked tirelessly to protect the integrity of our election systems. And perhaps most important of all, ROY has had a direct, generational impact on the future of cutting-edge American medicine. He spent years—years—building the transformational new consensus that became the Excellence in Mental Health Act.

His work to equip researchers to tackle rare diseases helped pour the foundation for the 21st Century Cures Act. At the National Institutes of Health, ROY BLUNT’s name is literally on the door of the signature initiative he championed to help the millions of Americans affected by dementia.

Time and time again, our capable and trusted colleague has wound up in the middle of high-stakes, high-profile work; yet ROY remains the same humble and approachable Show-Me Stater who first got into this business to help his neighbors.

These are qualities ROY shares with fellow distinguished Missourians who preceded him. Ever the historian, our colleague has regaled guests with the history of his Senate office suite, which once belonged to Harry Truman both as a Senator and even including Truman’s brief spell as Vice President.

Apparently, Truman came back personally to collect his things and finish moving out after he had already become the Commander in Chief.

But history isn’t the only subject where this former teacher still administers pop quizzes. ROY’s staff tell fondly how their boss is liable to walk into their offices at any time and simply inquire: So, what do you know? That one signature query captures ROY so well: the high standards, the curiosity, the restless energy to find the next big project that will make a difference. These qualities have made ROY one of the best the Senate has ever had at sniffing out common ground and delivering outcomes.

But legislation isn’t the only area where our friend’s nose-to-the-grindstone spirit pays dividends. For example, I am not sure what ROY has planned for his next chapter, but given his penchant for spending Saturdays walking the aisles at Home Depot and knocking out home improvement projects, I give him about 2 weeks before there won’t be one leaky faucet or rusted hinge within a three-mile radius of ROY and Abby’s place.

We know our friend much too well to predict that he will follow 14 general election victories by kicking back and taking it easy.

But, I suspect, ROY sure won’t mind the extra time with Abby and seeing more of Matt, Amy, Andrew, Charlie, and his grandkids as well.

So on behalf of all his friends here in the Senate and on behalf of the country, I thank my friend, the senior Senator from Missouri, for his years of outstanding service.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri.

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. President, I want to thank my good friend Senator McCONNELL for his comments this morning, and I have reserved some time this afternoon for what would be my official farewell address in the Senate.

But as it relates to our leader, Mr. McCONNELL, he and I were whips—when I was a whip in the House, he was a whip in the Senate. We met every week. We have had a long and close relationship. I am grateful for his advice, his friendship, and his comments today. Thank you.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Republican whip.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, we will be losing several members to retirement at the end of this year, including my friend ROY BLUNT.

ROY and I have served together for the majority of my time in the Senate, and I also served with him for several years in the House of Representatives.

We started in the House at the same time, and we became friends right away. Our wives have become friends as well through the years, and it has been a joy over the years to host ROY and Abby in South Dakota, along with their son Charlie, and to visit them in Missouri. On a personal level, I am going to miss ROY a lot, and the Senate

as an institution is going to miss ROY as well.

ROY is someone who aspires to be involved in doing the hard things. And throughout his congressional career, he has put himself forward for positions where he can make a difference.

He became chief deputy whip just 2 years after becoming a member of the House, and he was elected majority whip just 4 years later, winning the position earlier in his career than any member in Congress in eight decades.

It has been a similar story in the Senate where ROY was elected vice chairman of the Republican Conference in his first year. In 2019, he became chairman of the Republican policy committee which plays an important role in providing members and staff with the resources they need on the issues. And he has done that while serving as the top Republican on the Senate Rules Committee.

ROY has always been committed to doing the big things, but he is also very solutions-oriented and very clear-eyed and practical about what is achievable in a place where it is hard to get things done.

He has a saying: Never announce publicly what you won't vote for. What he means by that is that you shouldn't back yourself into a position where you can't support a good compromise. While it is not always possible to get everything you want, you shouldn't let that stop you from doing as much good as you can.

ROY has done a lot of good during his time in Congress, and one of his lasting legacies will be the bipartisan achievements in the healthcare space, including his efforts to help create and expand the certified community behavioral health clinics program to improve access to mental health care and championing medical research. The facility housing the NIH's Center for Alzheimer's and Related Dementias is actually named after ROY in honor of his longtime work to support dementia research. And, of course, no mention of ROY's legacy would be complete without mentioning his stalwart advocacy for the people of Missouri.

I am going to miss ROY, and the Senate will miss ROY, but I am grateful to have had the opportunity to serve together, and I am happy he will have more time to spend with Abby and his children and grandchildren.

ROY has made a lasting impact here in the Senate, and I look forward to seeing his next chapter.

TRIBUTE TO JAMES M. INHOFE

Mr. President, shortly before Thanksgiving, one of great icons of the Senate, Senator JIM INHOFE, gave his farewell speech, and I want to take the time today to honor his service.

As I said, JIM is one of the icons of the Senate, and it is difficult to imagine things here without him. Over his 28-year career, he has built an incredible legacy, particularly when it comes to building up our military and developing our relationships in Africa.

One of the first trips I took when I got to the Senate was a trip with JIM to Iraq and Germany to meet with some of our troops and to talk to our military leadership. I would like to think I am a pretty energetic guy, but I was left in awe by JIM INHOFE. He was like the Energizer Bunny. He left people half his age in the dust.

I don't know anybody who works harder than JIM. He leads by example, and his legislative achievements are a tribute to his tireless service.

Everyone knows that JIM INHOFE is an accomplished legislator, but not everybody knows that JIM is also an accomplished pilot. He has over 11,000 flight hours. I mentioned that he is like the Energizer Bunny, and he has flown an airplane around the world. I was lucky enough to have the opportunity to be his passenger once as we flew around Oklahoma, and it remains one of the best flights I have ever taken.

While I deeply admire JIM's work ethic and his legislative achievements and his piloting prowess, I might add, the thing I appreciate the most about JIM INHOFE is that he is a man of deep and profound faith. I have been blessed to gather with him and other Senators for Bible study for a number of years now, and I don't think he has ever missed a session.

When I think about JIM, I think about the verse in I Peter that says, "Sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you." JIM INHOFE is always ready to give that defense.

JIM isn't a man who pays lip service to his faith; he models it and he lives it. In word and deed, he is a great ambassador for his Savior, and I will miss his presence and his witness.

While I will miss JIM being in the Senate, I am glad he and his beloved wife Kay will now have more time to spend together with their children and their grandchildren, and I wish him the very best for retirement. He has more than earned some time off.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Delaware.

Mr. CARPER. Before the Senator leaves, the Bible study that he has referenced is one that JIM and I and a handful of other Democrats and Republicans join in every Thursday when we are in session, with Barry Black, the Chaplain of the Senate, and it has been hosted literally in the hideaway of JIM INHOFE. So it is a home game for him, but it is a home game for Democrats and Republicans just to share some time together in prayer and faith and some of the challenges we face.

Some people across the country watch the news all the time—you would think we hate each other here and we never want to work together, never want to get anything done. Thanks in no small part to JIM INHOFE's hospitality and participation and example, that is not the case.

So I just want to add my comments as well.

He is the two-time chairman of the Environment and Public Works Committee and a great partner with me in reducing emissions from buses and diesel engines and stuff like that. He is the lead Republican on the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act. So I just want to say there are some good environmentalists in Oklahoma, and on all the issues we have dealt with, JIM INHOFE has been one of those.

Mr. THUNE. Would the Senator from Delaware yield for just a minute?

Mr. CARPER. Sure.

Mr. THUNE. I just want to thank you for what you have said about Senator INHOFE and about our Bible study.

I would say to all of our colleagues that of all the time we spend here each and every week, that particular hour is arguably the most impactful, and I always encourage other of our colleagues to join us. We have been meeting, as Senator TOM CARPER mentioned, in Senator INHOFE's office now for many, many years and have been very blessed by his leadership not only here in the Senate but his witness with regard to his faith.

Mr. CARPER. People ask me: What do you like most about being in the Senate? What do you like most about public service? I like helping people. When they ask me more specifically what gives me joy in the Senate, it is that Thursday, it is that half an hour we spend together just about every Thursday. I am always pleased to be there with our colleagues—sometimes even work out in the gym together.

TRIBUTE TO JIM GARDNER

Mr. President, now to talk about another Jim—and I have been joined by CHRIS, CHRIS COONS, our Senator from the State of Delaware, and I am delighted to join Senator COONS and also our colleague in the House. We only have one congressional seat in the House, and it is filled by LISA BLUNT ROCHESTER. We are all going to be talking—not today here on the floor—Senator COONS and I will be, but LISA will be talking over in the House about Jim Gardner.

Who is Jim Gardner? He is an icon. That is a word you hear a whole lot, but he is truly an icon. He is signing off the air after 40 years of delivering the news for WPVI-6abc, which really is the dominant, if you will, television station in the whole Delaware Valley, including Delaware and southeastern Pennsylvania, parts of Maryland, and parts of New Jersey as well.

Jim has been delivering the news not just for that station, but he has been delivering the news for all of us, and one of the reasons why that station has enjoyed incredible ratings is in no small part because of his presence at the station. He has been a steady voice for viewers in the region, anchoring the 6 p.m. and 11 p.m. newscasts for as long as I can remember. Throughout that time, he earned the respect and he earned the trust of millions of viewers

who invited him into their homes on their televisions every night, including our home in Delaware.

Jim's career was born before he even graduated college. He was attending Columbia University in the late 1960s. Our country was in turmoil over race and the Vietnam war—a war in which I served. His first ever report was on the historic student riots on campus. That gave him his first taste of broadcast journalism.

He went on to report for a radio station—I think it was WINS Radio—and then another station called WFAS and then WKBW-TV in New York City before making his way down south to join us in the Delaware Valley in 1976, when he joined WPVI-TV as a reporter and as anchor for “Action News at Noon.”

Just shy of 1 year later, he became the anchor of the 6 o'clock news and the 11 o'clock broadcast, where he has been every night—every night—since, helping guide viewers through noteworthy events both globally and locally.

Over the years, Jim's assignments included interviews. He has interviewed a lot of Presidents and folks who maybe aspire to be President. I don't. Among those are Gerald Ford, Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan, George Herbert Walker Bush, George W. Bush, Bill Clinton, Barack Obama, Donald Trump, and a scrappy kid from Scranton who ended up as a Senator from Delaware, Joe Biden, who is now our President.

Throughout the years, Jim has interviewed Philadelphia mayors—I can't count all the ones—from Frank Rizzo to Jim Kenney, and he has covered I think 21 political conventions. Think about that—21 political conventions. There is a special place in Heaven for Jim Gardner for doing that, I will tell you.

Locally, Jim was the narrating voice of our 2008 Phillies and 2018 Eagles world championship parades, and those teams were really good this year as well. The Phillies made it all the way to the World Series, and the Eagles are knocking on the door to do something special in the NFL playoffs later this year.

As the “Action News” opening song says “Move closer to your world,” he has also traveled abroad to help us understand some of the biggest stories in history—not just in Delaware, not just in the Delaware Valley, but across the world. He reported from the Vatican to cover the death of, for example, Pope Paul VI. He traveled to Germany to cover the return of American hostages from Iran. He reported from Russia and Lithuania after the fall of the Soviet Union. He covered the Oslo Accords from Israel and from the West Bank. He traveled to Cuba to cover Pope John Paul II and then went to Argentina to report on the life of Pope Francis.

Perhaps what has allowed Jim to hold the trust of his viewers while engaging his audience night after night is that no matter where he has traveled—no matter where he has traveled—he

understands that what matters to his viewers most can be found right in our own backyards, community events, at school board and town council meetings, houses of worship, and by talking to our neighbors.

It is with great pleasure that we rise on behalf of Delaware's congressional delegation to honor the exemplary career of Jim Gardner.

I want to say, Jim, to you and your family, congratulations on a job well done. We want to convey our thanks to your wife Amy—there is a special place in Heaven for her and for our spouses as well—and to your four children for sharing their dad with us and the people of our region of America. Delaware Valley is a better place because of you. God bless. Godspeed.

With that, I am pleased to yield to my wingman from Delaware.

Mr. COONS. Mr. President, I join my colleague from our home State of Delaware in ensuring that Jim Gardner's four decades of leadership in our community, in our local news, and in laying down a marker for what it means to be a real journalist, a trusted and loyal and important part of community leadership—that his service will be remembered and recognized in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Jim Gardner, as my colleague laid out in great detail, born and raised in New York City, turned on to journalism as a student at Columbia University by reporting on the historic Columbia riots in 1968 and then began his remarkable run with WPVI-TV Philadelphia on June 1, 1976.

I have had the honor of being in the newsroom and talking with Jim as he has prepared for a broadcast, of getting a sense of just how good and balanced and thoughtful a journalistic leader he is.

For all of us, it is a real loss that, four decades later, Jim has anchored his last regularly scheduled 11 p.m. broadcast. He is still anchoring the 6 p.m. news.

I will tell you, Jim, my wife Annie and I love watching you. You have given us a sense of continuity, of community, and of character in our local news, unmatched in so many other communities around our country. You are a genuine treasure, a jewel of the Delaware Valley, and we will miss you deeply. You have interviewed Popes and Presidents, local elected officials and international leaders. You have contributed to our understanding of our place in the world and brought us closer together.

I just wanted to say to you personally, congratulations on your retirement. I know that you will get to spend more time with Josh, Jenn, Emily, and Jesse, and your grandson Henry.

Thank you to Amy.

As my colleague and friend TOM CARPER said, it is our spouses who often experience the highs and the lows of our public service, and I know your family has supported you through this remarkable work.

It would be impossible to list all the stories that you reported on or contributed to, but know, Jim, that you have left a lasting legacy in the hearts of the millions of people who have watched you over decades and felt that they were brought a little bit closer to their world.

Thank you, and we look forward to recognizing you in the RECORD of the United States Senate.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. PADILLA). Without objection, it is so ordered.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I know the Senator from Kentucky and the Senator from Michigan are trying to work through some differences on a potential unanimous consent request, but I have asked them if I might make a few remarks if they are not quite ready yet, and they have graciously allowed me to do so.

What I want to talk about is—it is December 6. It is 19 days until Christmas, and the 117th Congress is quickly coming to a close, but there is a lot of work that needs to be done in the meantime—first, the National Defense Authorization Act, which I hope will be the next order of business.

You know, when people ask me, “What are your priorities when it comes to representing the State of Texas in the U.S. Senate?” I say: Well, it is clear there is one priority, and that is the strength and security and safety of our Nation and our way of life—to preserve and protect the peace and to protect the freedom of all Americans.

The way we do that is through the National Defense Authorization Act. It is, I believe, the most important piece of legislation that we consider each year, among other important pieces of legislation. This is how we support our troops, how we support our military families in an all-volunteer military, how we maintain our military bases, how we modernize our weapons systems and airframes and invest in the next generation of weapons.

I believe what Ronald Reagan said—that we maintain peace through strength—and when we don't make our national defense a priority, when we neglect the most important responsibilities we have here, it sends the wrong message to our adversaries and those who would take advantage of a power vacuum left by an America that refuses to lead.

The National Defense Authorization Act is how we strengthen our relationships with old allies and forge strong partnerships with new ones. For example, as a result of the invasion of

Ukraine by Vladimir Putin, now Finland and Sweden have said they want to become part of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, which is certainly not what Mr. Putin contemplated when he said he was invading Ukraine because he didn't want a potential NATO member on his border. Well, as a result of his blundering invasion and wrongful invasion of Ukraine, he is now going to have Finland as a NATO partner on his border with some, I believe, roughly, 800 miles of common border.

We know that this is an increasingly challenging global threat landscape, and we have to do everything we can to make sure our troops have the training and the equipment and the resources needed to counter adversaries of today and tomorrow.

Given the state of the world, preserving our military readiness has never been more important. China and Russia have, obviously, grown more aggressive in their efforts to disrupt the global order. North Korea continues to threaten the United States and our allies with its nuclear capabilities. Iran, which is the largest state sponsor of terrorism, continues to threaten democracies in the Middle East, including our ally in Israel, and to threaten not only regional conflict but something worse.

This is a fragile time for global peace and security, and a strong National Defense Authorization Act is the principal way that we supply our military with the resources and certainty needed for our commanders to plan for the future.

But this legislation is about much more than maintaining a strong national defense. It is about empowering and supporting the men and women behind it. America's servicemembers are volunteers, and they have made a commitment not everyone is willing to make in joining the ranks of America's heroes who have defended our country throughout our Nation's history. They make sacrifices each and every day in order to keep our families safe and our Nation at peace, and we owe it to them to give them the support that they need. That includes not only the training, technology, and equipment they need to do their jobs but also the pay and benefits that their families depend on.

In short, a strong National Defense Authorization Act is critical to the success of our servicemembers, their families, American security, and, indeed, world peace. We simply can't neglect this important responsibility or delay it any longer. I think the majority leader, the Senator from New York, has already delayed it to the point that here we are, backed up against Christmas, with no time to spare. Congress needs to pass this annual Defense authorization bill ASAP—as soon as possible. I hear the House is planning to take up the Defense Authorization Act this week, and I hope that the Senate will follow in short order.

For the past 61 years in a row—61 years—Congress has managed to overcome partisan differences and pass this legislation. I hope that will continue this year, but I am becoming more and more concerned given the crunch that we are experiencing here 19 days before Christmas.

GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Mr. President, once we pass the Defense authorization bill, which I hope we will do, we have one other big item on the "to do" list, and that is government funding.

You may ask: How in the world did we get here? Ordinarily, in what we sometimes refer to as "regular order" around here, the Appropriations Committee takes up and passes at the committee level 12 appropriations bills. These fund the entire government, from the Defense Department to Transportation, to Foreign Affairs, to—well, everything that the Federal Government does, which is our border security and the like.

What has happened is that that system has broken down and empowered not rank-and-file members of the Appropriations Committee or even rank-and-file Members of the Senate or Congress. What is happening is that this bill is being negotiated, probably on the order of almost \$1.7 trillion, behind closed doors by the leadership, and we will then be presented with a fait accompli. In other words, we will have two choices: to vote up or down on the annual appropriations bill. It is a ridiculous and embarrassing way to do business around here. It is certainly not transparent. It certainly doesn't provide the American people with the information they need in order to decide whether they think we are on the right track or the wrong track.

So here we are, more than 2 months into the fiscal year, and last year's business is still outstanding. Our Democratic colleagues hold the majority in the House and the Senate, as well as the White House. Despite their unilateral authority to set the schedule, they have failed in some of our most basic responsibilities, and that is to advance appropriations bills before the end of the fiscal year.

In September, they punted the funding deadline to December the 16th, which is just 10 days away. And it doesn't sound like much progress has been made. There is no agreement, even on a top-line number, which is the first step for coming up with a funding agreement.

To make matters worse, Democrats are still pushing for dramatic increases in nondefense domestic spending. Typically, these agreements include some sort of parity between defense and nondefense spending, but the spending habits of the last 2 years by the Democratic majority along party lines have been anything but typical.

First of all, our Democratic colleagues stole the taxpayer credit card and went on not one but two spending sprees. The first was called the Amer-

ican Rescue Plan, which included a long list of progressive social policies. That bill cost taxpayers \$1.9 trillion—party-line vote, borrowed money that somebody is going to have to pay off someday.

A few months ago, our colleagues went on a second spending spree with something called the Inflation Reduction Act, which I sometimes called the "Inflation Nonreduction Act" because it won't reduce inflation anytime soon. In fact, it includes nearly half a trillion dollars in new spending.

Anybody who has followed what you do when inflation is raging, as it is now, knows there are usually two components: one is the Federal Reserve that controls monetary policy; in other words, interest rates. They can slow down the economy. They can try to take a shot at inflation by slowing down the economy and raising interest rates, but of course that means the money we have to pay to service the debt that we are incurring here just gets bigger and bigger.

There is a second component, too, when it comes to tackling inflation, and that is the fiscal side, the spending. The reason why we still see inflation at a 40-year high is because our Democratic colleagues, on top of all the spending we had to do on COVID-19 on a bipartisan basis, have engaged in a radical spending spree of roughly \$2½ trillion. That has exacerbated the fire in inflation. Many people who are financially well-off have not experienced much beyond an inconvenience, but to working families who live paycheck to paycheck, the prices they pay not only at the pump but at the grocery store for housing and everything else have gone through the roof. They are the ones hurting as a result of this fiscal irresponsibility.

So after the last 2 years, our Democratic colleagues have spent trillions of dollars on their domestic priorities, and they made no push for parity with defense spending. They didn't couple \$128 billion for K-12 schools with new investments in research and development. They didn't mirror the \$86 billion bailout for labor unions with funding for next-generation aircraft or weapons. They didn't pair the \$80 billion for a supersized IRS with funding to support our troops and their families. They didn't match the \$40 billion for transportation projects with funding for infrastructure updates at our military installations. And they certainly didn't couple the extensive unemployment benefits that they provided with pay raises for servicemembers. So there has been no question of parity between defense and nondefense spending these last 2 years.

They spent trillions of dollars on domestic priorities without even entertaining the idea of more support for our national security. Now they cannot widen that gap any further. We shouldn't stand for it. And we can't shortchange America's military in

order to maintain this illusion of parity. And it is nothing more than an illusion after this spending spree that our Democratic colleagues have been on for the last 2 years.

I hope, finding ourselves where we are, that our colleagues are able to make some progress in the coming days and avoid another continuing resolution.

Last week, Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin wrote to congressional leaders stressing the importance of a full-year government funding bill. He emphasized the negative impact of short-term funding on procurement, research and development, troop training, infrastructure projects, recruitment, and so much more. He didn't mince words in saying how critical it is to pass a regular appropriations bill, saying:

Failure to do so will result in significant harm to our people and our programs and would cause harm to our national security and our competitiveness.

This is where we find ourselves, and it is not an accident. This is a conscious design by the congressional leaders of the Democratic Party in the House and the Senate, who have said we are not going to have a regular appropriations process that is predictable and done on time and in a way that is transparent and allows the American people and rank-and-file Members of the Congress to participate. Instead, they have said we are going to push it all to the end of the year, backstop it against Christmas and the new Congress, and we are going to tell congressional Members you have those two choices: You can vote up or vote down. But they know that we have a responsibility to fund our military, we have a responsibility to fund our border security efforts, and so much more.

So it is unlikely, highly unlikely, that Congress will fail to pass an appropriations bill and turn the lights out here in Washington, DC, and shut down the government. Our congressional leaders know that, but they have been reckless in the way they have handled this to the point now where we have very few choices.

This is not what responsible governing looks like. Our Democratic colleagues have left the most fundamental tasks of the government to the very last moment.

The Defense authorization bill and the government funding bills are not a surprise. These are necessary to complete each and every year, and the deadlines arrive like clockwork. But somehow our colleagues, the leadership in the House and the Senate, our Democratic colleagues, have gotten us here by design.

They understand how this place works, and they like the fact that they maintain bulk control over \$1.7 trillion in spending, and they use the National Defense Authorization Act to try to jam through other special interest goodies because they realize that with so few moving vehicles across the floor

of the U.S. Congress this late in the year, that that is what will happen.

When you have a must-pass bill, people will look for every opportunity to put in their special project because they know that will be carried along, along with this must-pass legislation.

Inflation remains at a 40-year high, communities across the country are dealing with increases in violent crime, and the crisis at the border is growing more challenging by the day. I can't help but to believe that the American people deserve better than this, and I hope the next few weeks will bring more productivity than the last few months have. And I hope that once we put the business of our national security and appropriating for the support of the Federal Government behind us, hopefully sooner rather than later, we won't repeat this same mistake year after year after year.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

NOMINATION OF ELIZABETH FRAWLEY BAGLEY

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I rise today in support of a dedicated and well-qualified individual who has been nominated by President Biden to fill an increasingly important role. That person is Elizabeth Bagley, who has been nominated to be the U.S. Ambassador to Brazil.

Elizabeth Bagley has been involved in public service for decades. Twenty-eight years ago, as a matter of fact, she appeared before the U.S. Senate, then being considered as President Clinton's nominee to be Ambassador to Portugal. She went on to serve in that role from 1994 to 1997, which was a period of growth and positive development in this important bilateral relationship.

For the service in Portugal, she received distinguished awards from the Portuguese Navy and Air Force as well as the Grand Cross of Prince Henry the Navigator, which is the President of Portugal's highest civilian commendation.

She is also the recipient of the Global Democracy Award from the International Women's Democracy Center, the Ellis Island Medal of Honor, and the 2013 Secretary of State's Distinguished Honor Award.

In 2013, she served as Alternative Representative of the United States to the United Nations, and prior to that was the first Special Representative to the Secretary of State for Global Partnerships.

In her years of diplomatic service, she has also worked as a senior adviser to Secretaries Kerry, Clinton, and the late Madeleine Albright.

President Biden has nominated her to an especially critical role, and that

is to be our Nation's Ambassador to Brazil—the largest economy in South America, a country that is going through dramatic transitions right now. As a matter of fact, Brazil will be inaugurating its new President at the beginning of January. And I believe—frankly, it has been an embarrassment that we have gone almost 2 years without an Ambassador to Brazil—I believe it is critically important that Ambassador Bagley be in Brasilia, having been presented her credentials in time for the inauguration of the new Brazilian President.

As a matter of fact, in terms of north-south relations, our relations with Brazil are as critical as virtually any nation in the Southern Hemisphere. We have got lots and lots of work to do on this important relationship, and it is important that we move forward.

Originally, I was going to come down and ask UC to both have Elizabeth Bagley discharged from committee and also confirmed now on the floor. Working with my Republican friends, I appreciate the fact that I believe they are going to allow us to move forward on the discharge from committee but not move forward on Ms. Bagley's confirmation as Ambassador. I know there may be some holds on all north-south Ambassadors at this point, but I implore my colleagues on the other side of the aisle. This is a talented, well-suited, appropriately experienced individual. This relationship between the United States and Brazil is absolutely critical now perhaps more than ever, and I hope that we can find some level of accommodation to move past the action we take today and make sure that Elizabeth Bagley is confirmed as our country's Ambassador to Brazil so that she can be in Brasilia by the time the new administration in Brazil comes into power in early January under President Lula.

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to support Elizabeth Bagley's nomination to serve as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Federative Republic of Brazil.

Elizabeth brings to this position significant experience in diplomacy, law, and foreign affairs. Over the course of her incredible career, she has served our country as Ambassador to Portugal, as a senior adviser to multiple Secretaries of State, and as congressional liaison to the Helsinki Accords and the Camp David Treaties.

At the State Department, she was the first person to serve as the Special Representative for Global Partnerships, an office which worked to advance foreign policy priorities through private sector engagement. She has a background in international law and shared that expertise with the students at Georgetown University Law Center. Through her years advising key leaders like Madeleine Albright, Hillary Clinton, and John Kerry, Elizabeth gained the experience needed to represent our country on the world stage.

We all know about the key role Ambassadors play in diplomacy. U.S. and broader democratic efforts suffer when we do not have an Ambassador in place—someone to officially represent the U.S. Government, to lead our Foreign Service Officers abroad, and to strengthen diplomatic ties with other nations.

This is particularly true of Brazil, a country that is home to a U.S. Embassy, four consulates, a branch office, and decades of partnership. More than 40,000 students, teachers, and professionals have participated in exchanges between the United States and Brazil. The United States is Brazil's second largest trading partner, and our governments and law enforcement agencies work closely together to combat money laundering, arms trafficking, and human trafficking.

To manage the many challenges facing the world today—food shortages from Russia's invasion of Ukraine, rising temperatures and extreme weather events, continuing recovery from the pandemic, and China's growing influence around the world, we need capable Ambassadors in place to share democratic values and secure America's place in the world. Time and time again, Elizabeth Bagley has proven herself to be the kind of leader who is up for the task.

Don't take it just from me. Elizabeth has been awarded the Secretary of State's Distinguished Honor Award, given for those who have made significant contributions to the Agency's mission, and the Portuguese Government has conferred upon her the Grand Cross of Prince Henry the Navigator, Portugal's highest civilian honor.

I am proud to say I will be voting for Elizabeth Bagley as Ambassador to Brazil, and I urge my colleagues to do the same.

NOMINATION DISCHARGED AND PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

Mr. WARNER. So, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be discharged from further consideration of PN1691, Elizabeth Frawley Bagley, to be Ambassador of the United States to Brazil, and that the nomination be placed on the calendar.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there an objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. WARNER. Thank you, Mr. President.

I yield the floor and, again, hope that we can move on this ambassadorship and many others to make sure that our country is well represented not only in South America but around the world going forward.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. LUJÁN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. CARDIN. I ask unanimous consent that the vote scheduled at 12 noon start immediately.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The bill clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 1149, Frances Kay Behm, of Michigan, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Alex Padilla, Tina Smith, Michael F. Bennet, Christopher A. Coons, Margaret Wood Hassan, Catherine Cortez Masto, Tim Kaine, Ben Ray Lujan, Tammy Duckworth, Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Angus S. King, Jr., Patty Murray, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Martin Heinrich, Jack Reed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Frances Kay Behm, of Michigan, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 47, nays 46, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 374 Ex.]

YEAS—47

Baldwin	Hassan	Reed
Bennet	Heinrich	Rosen
Blumenthal	Hirono	Schatz
Booker	Kaine	Schumer
Brown	King	Shaheen
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Sinema
Cardin	Leahy	Smith
Carper	Lujan	Stabenow
Casey	Manchin	Tester
Collins	Markey	Tillis
Coons	Menendez	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Warner
Durbin	Murray	Warren
Feinstein	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Padilla	Wyden
Graham	Peters	

NAYS—46

Barrasso	Boozman	Capito
Blackburn	Braun	Cassidy
Blunt	Burr	Cornyn

Cotton	Johnson	Rubio
Cramer	Kennedy	Sasse
Crapo	Lankford	Scott (FL)
Cruz	Lee	Scott (SC)
Daines	Lummis	Shelby
Ernst	Marshall	Sullivan
Fischer	McConnell	Thune
Grassley	Moran	Toomey
Hagerty	Paul	Tuberville
Hawley	Portman	Wicker
Hoeven	Risch	Young
Hyde-Smith	Romney	
Inhofe	Rounds	

NOT VOTING—7

Duckworth	Murkowski	Warnock
Hickenlooper	Murphy	
Kelly	Sanders	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 47, the nays are 46.

The motion is agreed to.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:53 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. OSSOFF).

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota.

Mr. HOEVEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that we proceed with the vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 1184, Kelley Brisbon Hodge, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Chris Van Hollen, Richard Blumenthal, Tim Kaine, Michael F. Bennet, Gary C. Peters, Benjamin L. Cardin, Margaret Wood Hassan, Jack Reed, Alex Padilla, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Christopher A. Coons, Debbie Stabenow, Tammy Baldwin, Elizabeth Warren, Cory A. Booker, Mark R. Warner.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Kelley Brisbon Hodge, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY), and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 52, nays 43, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 375 Ex.]

YEAS—52

Baldwin	Heinrich	Rounds
Bennet	Hirono	Sanders
Blumenthal	Kaine	Schatz
Booker	King	Schumer
Brown	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Cantwell	Leahy	Sinema
Cardin	Lujan	Smith
Carper	Manchin	Stabenow
Casey	Markey	Tester
Collins	Menendez	Tillis
Coons	Merkley	Toomey
Cortez Masto	Murray	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Ossoff	Warner
Durbin	Padilla	Warren
Feinstein	Peters	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Portman	Wyden
Graham	Reed	
Hassan	Rosen	

NAYS—43

Barrasso	Fischer	Paul
Blackburn	Grassley	Risch
Blunt	Hagerty	Romney
Boozman	Hawley	Rubio
Braun	Hoeben	Sasse
Burr	Hyde-Smith	Scott (FL)
Capito	Inhofe	Scott (SC)
Cassidy	Johnson	Shelby
Cornyn	Kennedy	Sullivan
Cotton	Lankford	Thune
Cramer	Lee	Tuberville
Crapo	Lummis	Wicker
Cruz	Marshall	Young
Daines	McConnell	
Ernst	Moran	

NOT VOTING—5

Hickenlooper	Murkowski	Warnock
Kelly	Murphy	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 52, the nays are 43.

The motion is agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Kelley Brisbon Hodge, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KAINE). The Senator from Louisiana.

INFLATION

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I want to talk a few minutes today about inflation, but I don't want to just talk about the problem; I want to talk about the solution as well as Congress's role. I don't need to tell the American people—and I certainly don't need to tell my colleagues—about inflation.

The inflation we are experiencing today is the highest since 1982, and it really is ravaging the American people. It is gutting them like a fish.

Depending upon which experts you believe, the inflation rate right now is about 8 percent. Most Americans will

tell you viscerally they feel that it is higher. Every time they go to the grocery store, they feel like prices have gone up 8 percent.

And I don't really want to debate or discuss the causes too much.

There are basically two types of inflation. There is what is called demand-pull inflation and cost-push inflation.

Inflation is just basically too much money chasing too few goods. If you restrict the supply of the goods, that is called cost-push inflation. If you keep the supply of the goods constant and raise demand for the goods, that is called demand-pull inflation.

And the truth is, our current inflation is a direct product of both cost-push and demand-pull.

I do think—well, I know that the U.S. Congress had to spend more money than we would have liked to deal with the pandemic, but I also believe that once the pandemic was over and the economy was recovering, we kept on spending and all of that spending was stimulatory or stimulative and all of that spending did add to inflation. Once again, too much money chasing too few goods.

Since the 1950s, we have had roughly 10 periods of inflation—some very high inflation, some more moderate—but 10 inflationary periods, if you will, in which government decided we need to reduce the rise in prices. We need to reduce inflation.

Most people remember the inflationary period of the 1980s—I know you do, Mr. President—but there have been 10 inflationary periods. And normally what we do to deal with inflation—we talk about Federal Reserve. And we know the Federal Reserve, to get prices down, raises interest rates.

Well, why does the Federal Reserve do that?

It does that to slow the economy.

Well, what does that mean? How do you measure slowing the economy?

Well, here is the dirty little secret that we all don't talk about much: When the Federal Reserve raises interest rates to slow the economy, I will tell you how they measure it, they measure it in jobs, and they measure it in the unemployment rate.

And, in effect—I am not being critical of them. The Federal Reserve is doing its job. But what the Federal Reserve does when it raises interest rates to slow the economy, they are trying to throw people out of work. They are trying to throw people out of work.

Now, I made a few notes. Right now, the unemployment rate is about 3.7 percent. And if you go back in these 10 periods of inflation since the 1950s and look at how many people the Federal Reserve had to put out of work in order to get the inflation down, here is what you see: On average, during those 10 periods, to get inflation down 2 percent, we had to see a rise in unemployment of 3.6 percent.

Now, what does that mean?

Today, unemployment is about 3.7 percent. Inflation is—let's call it 8 per-

cent. Historically—I am not saying it will be the case this time, but historically that would mean that the Federal Reserve, in order to reduce inflation by 2 percent, would have to raise unemployment to 7.3 percent.

And those aren't just a bunch of sterile statistics on a page. Those are 6 million jobs that will be lost, people out of work.

We have some really smart economists who have looked at this problem—Jason Furman, for example, Larry Summers. They both happen to be smart economists who served President Obama. They are suggesting that in order to get this high inflation down, if we just depend on the Federal Reserve alone, that we will have to have an unemployment rate of between 7.5 and 10 percent for a pretty long period of time.

That is anywhere from 8 to 10 million Americans out of work, and that is a lot of pain.

Now, what can Congress do to help?

If you look at the worst of those 10 periods of inflation, most people—I do—think of the 1980s, and most people consider Paul Volcker to be a hero because the then-Federal Reserve Chairman got inflation down.

And a lot of people think that the Chairman of the Federal Reserve then did it all by himself by raising interest rates so high, causing unemployment to go up so high, causing a lot of pain.

He didn't do it alone. Congress helped him. When the Reagan administration came in, the Reagan administration—first thing it did, it cut taxes, which was inflationary—no question—but then the Reagan administration and the U.S. Congress worked with the Federal Reserve whereby the Federal Reserve would raise interest rates, but Congress tried to slow the growth in spending, not cut spending in the sense of our budget this year will be less than last year, just slowing the growth in spending and slowing debt accumulation. And that is how we conquered, other than now, the worst inflationary period in the United States. It wasn't just the Federal Reserve; Congress did its part.

We have to slow the rate of growth in our budget, and we have to slow the accumulation of debt. Now, one might say: Well, you know, Congress doesn't have to do anything; the United States Senate can do what it wants. And that is true. That is true. But if we don't, if we don't slow the rate of growth in our spending, if we don't slow the accumulation of debt, that is going to cause the Federal Reserve to raise interest rates even higher to slow the economy, to raise the unemployment rate, to throw people out of work.

All I am saying is, we all hate inflation. Nobody wants this inflation. And we can debate until the cows come home about what caused it, OK? Was it supply chain? Is it Ukraine? Is it Putin? I happen to think a big part of it is demand-fueled inflation, and we just spent too much money once the

pandemic was over. But I know many of my Democratic friends disagree with me, but they can't—they shouldn't disagree with me on this: We need to do our part to help the Federal Reserve because the Federal Reserve is not raising interest rates just to raise rates; it is raising interest rates, which is its job, to throw people out of work. If it has to raise interest rates to 10 or 12 percent and keep them there, we are going to have 10-plus million Americans out of work. And do you know what is worse than not having enough money to pay for what you need? Not having any money. Losing your job.

Congress can help, but it is going to require help from both sides, both Democrats and Republicans. We are going to have to agree to spend less money. We just are. And I know we have needs, and I am not saying cut the budget in half, but we have to reduce the rate of growth in our spending, and we have to reduce the rate of accumulation in our debt. Even then, we won't be able to avoid all the pain of inflation, but we will be able to save, I predict, millions and millions of jobs we would otherwise lose to these high interest rates.

I know not all my colleagues agree with me. They don't. I have Republican colleagues—I know there are some of my Democrat friends, but I have some Republican colleagues who think that how much we spend makes no difference. They think it makes absolutely no difference. With all the respect I can muster, they are wrong. All you have to do is look at history, and the only way we conquered inflation the last time it was this bad in the 1980s was through cooperation of the Federal Reserve doing its job on the monetary side but also this Congress doing its job on the fiscal side.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. TESTER). Without objection, it is so ordered.

FAREWELL TO THE SENATE

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. President, when I gave my first speech on the Senate floor 12 years ago or when I cast my first vote in the House 26 years ago, I had really no way to anticipate the challenges and opportunities that were ahead of us.

I come to the floor today grateful for my colleagues on both sides of the aisle and on both sides of the Capitol. When we agree and when we don't, we are bound by the Constitution to seek a more perfect Union.

Of course, I am most grateful to Missourians, who have given me the chance to work with them as a county official, as the Missouri Secretary of State, and in both the U.S. House and the U.S. Senate.

Missouri is where the country comes together—the North meets the South, the East meets the West. No State has more States at its borders than us and only one with as many States as we have. We have been the population center of America for the last five decades in kind of moving down Interstate 44 as the population has moved west and south. We sit in the middle of the biggest piece of contiguous agricultural farmland in the world, and it is the only one that has its own built-in transportation system—the Mississippi River Valley.

St. Louis is sometimes described as the westernmost eastern city, and Kansas City, really, may be more like Denver and Omaha than it is St. Louis. Springfield, where I live, kind of looks to the west and the south to Tulsa and to Fayetteville. The bootheel of our State is the Delta South in every way—the economy, the topography. What happens there is reflective of other places more than it is the rest of our State.

I was in northern Missouri quite a bit this summer, and while in northern Missouri—those two counties that border Iowa—one of the people with me one day when I was the secretary of state said: When we are up here, I always feel like we are on top of the world.

I never go to northern Missouri now unless I feel like I am on top of the world.

Of course, every Senator thinks their State is unique, and it is. A couple of years ago, I spent a few minutes each day trying to figure out and, for about a period of 6 months, wondering how the other 99 Members got here. With a couple of exceptions, I was able to figure it out.

(Laughter.)

I have some question in my mind about a couple of our friends, but as I looked at it, I figured out somebody has unique people skills, and other people have extraordinary political skills. Maybe it is the ability to quickly understand complicated things or the ability to explain complicated things so that other people can understand them. Most of the time, however, we just have an incredible amount of wasted talent. If you could take the collective talent of the 100 U.S. Senators and make the most of it, there is absolutely no telling what might happen.

Now, part of that is because the Senate isn't expected to work efficiently. We don't have many rules, and what does get done usually gets done by either unanimous consent or total exhaustion. Those are our two stopping points. Our Federal Government was designed by people who didn't trust government and didn't want too much of it. They made it hard to get things done. They opted for inefficiency, and that inefficiency is really mind-boggling to people who are more familiar with the parliamentary system, where, if it doesn't get done and it isn't efficient, it fails. We certainly aren't built that way.

We have clearly found new levels of inefficiency in the past decade—one big bill at the end of the year to fund the government plus whatever the four leaders of the House and Senate can agree to add to it. Once again, we are at that year-ending process to cobble together some kind of result. Now, the only thing worse than the way we do it would be not doing it. The only thing worse than the way we do it is just to decide not to get our work done and see what happens. So we are, once again, down to the next 4 weeks to get our work done or, even better, the next 3 weeks. It wouldn't be bad if we got it done in the next 2 weeks, but we are following the pattern here, in my view, we have followed for too long.

You know, I have seen the standard process of regular order work. In my first decade in the Congress, it never worked perfectly, but it came pretty close to the standard that had been set for two centuries. There is good reason for how a bill becomes a law whether you first saw it on a filmstrip, like I probably did, or on "Schoolhouse Rock!" like my kids did. You know how it is supposed to work: Members of a committee and staff who know the most about an issue hold hearings; they mark up a bill; the bill is to be debated and amended on the floor of both the House and the Senate before it goes to the President to be signed or vetoed. For 225 years, the topics of what to fund and how to pay for it have dominated the congressional debate, and we, frankly, need to get back to that, where people see what is going on and Members feel bought in to what is going on.

But then and now, during that whole time, whether regular order was working or not, the rules of the Senate really required finding someone on the other side to work with. There have never been more than 56 popularly elected Republican Senators and only a handful of times have there been 60 or more Democrats. Finding someone on the other side to work with produces the most lasting results.

A couple of Congresses ago, there were 52 on my side and 48 on the other side. My staff decided it would be interesting—they came to me one day and said: We just thought it would be interesting to check and see how many of the 48 Democrats you figured out how to be the principal sponsor of a bill with. The answer was 44. I thought that was a pretty good number.

My point then and now is you don't have to agree on everything to work together; you just have to agree on one thing. And if you find that one thing you agree on and, frankly, particularly if you are successful, both the Members working together and their staffs think: Well, gee, we could do that again.

In healthcare research, Senator MURRAY and I, along with Chairman COLE on the House side and, eventually, the ranking member, then-Chairman DELAUNO, worked together to significantly change NIH research.

Senator KLOBUCHAR and I have done lots of things together. We have worked on the travel economy, which is a big part of our economy. We have worked to rewrite the workplace harassment standards for the Senate. We have worked on adoption issues.

Senator BROWN and I passed a bill of advanced manufacturing. We had known each other for years. Once we figured out we could pass one bill together, we passed five. It has the good effect.

Senator STABENOW and I have worked so hard on Certified Community Behavioral Health Centers. We have worked on this for well over a decade now, and we have made, I think, incredible progress. Neither of us would have gotten that done by ourselves.

Senators CAPITO and SHAHEEN and PORTMAN and MANCHIN all worked with me and our committee on opioid and dependency issues. We were making real progress. I think the pandemic set that progress back, but it shouldn't stop us from moving forward.

Senator COONS founded with me the Law Enforcement Caucus. We worked, every time it came up, to expand it and the Victims of Child Abuse Act and the volunteer community efforts.

There are other retiring Members I want to mention whom I have worked with as well: Senator LEAHY and Senator SHELBY, both on the Appropriations Committee and the Rules Committee. You know, on the Appropriations Committee, I got to see the last of Senator Inouye and Senator Cochran still at their best and Barbara Mikulski—people who didn't have to have a perfect result to have a result—and it was wonderful to get to watch them work.

Senator INHOFE was, obviously, totally focused on what it takes to defend the country. He was here for his remarks, his farewell speech, the other day and pointed out that he found somebody he didn't agree with on hardly anything—Barbara Boxer—and they came up with public works bill after public works bill.

Senator BURR, who is leaving, has been my chairman on the Intelligence Committee and has been so capable and so knowledgeable on that committee. He has been really, incredibly, helpful to me.

Senator PORTMAN and I have been at the leadership table in both the House and the Senate. I have been in more meetings with ROB PORTMAN than I have ever been with anybody I have ever served on a committee with, and it has been great.

PAT TOOMEY, of course, brings incredible understanding of finance issues and the economy.

My longest relationships, of course, are with my House colleagues. Senator THUNE, Senator MORAN, and I all came to the House at the same time along with Senator STABENOW. Senator MORAN and Senator BOOZMAN and I all came to the Senate together from the House.

Senator CARDIN, Senator GRAHAM, Senator CASSIDY, Senator BLACKBURN, Senator BROWN, Senator WICKER, and others have been part of my work life for a long, long time. Together, we have faced big challenges. You know, after 9/11, we saw a new terrorist threat. I was in the middle of that discussion of the continuity of government when I had the sudden realization that our government could dramatically change, and we had not thought about what might happen if it did change.

Dick Gephardt—my fellow Missourian and who was the Democratic leader at the time—and I came up with this structure for post-9/11 compensation for victims, which worked. Unfortunately, it has worked following now with a number of tragedies, but it was something I was able to be there for as we put it together.

You know, at that time, President Bush said:

[W]e bring our enemies to justice, or bring justice to our enemies.

Four Presidents have now followed that standard.

For me, the legislative highlights would, of course, include what happens at the NIH, where I have been able to be part of increasing by 50 percent, over 8 years, with Senator MURRAY and others, the commitment we made to healthcare research.

I mentioned Senator STABENOW earlier, but as for the mental health efforts, the changing that I think we have all seen here in just the last few years in how we talk about that issue and how we understand we need to respond to that issue is something I am particularly proud of.

Now, maybe a bill with Senator HEINRICH, the Recovering America's Wildlife Act, which every conservation group in America is supportive of—maybe we can add that to the list of things I am going to consider a great accomplishment before we leave here, and it has to go in that big bill I talked about earlier that we put together here at the end.

I have had an incredible opportunity to be responsible for two inaugurations. It is one of the most important things we do. That particular event, not me being responsible for it, 100 million people watched live. Tens of millions of people around the world watched all or part of it after that. It is so important we get it right.

In 2017, I decided our theme would be the peaceful transition of power. I remember at both inaugurations I quoted—the only thing I repeated, I think, at those two inaugurations was President Reagan who said in 1981: What we do here today is commonplace and miraculous—commonplace because we have done it every 4 years since 1789, miraculous because we have done it every 4 years since 1789.

In 2021, I said, well, this time, let's talk about our need to have a more perfect Union.

The Founders didn't promise a perfect Union. They were, in that place,

pretty reasonable in their anticipation of what we could do and what we could be, but they did promise a more perfect Union. And that is the effort we continue to be a part of.

To get all of that done, so many other people have to make it possible. All of us appreciate every one of our families. I think we all appreciate each other's families because, better than anybody else, we know what families mean and how important it is that your family is part of this.

My mom and dad were dairy farmers. They never suggested there were any limits to what a person could do in America. There was no sense that you couldn't do everything you wanted to do.

I am most grateful to Abby, my wife. I wouldn't be in the Senate and wouldn't have stayed as long in the House as I did if Abby hadn't been willing to work so much, so hard to make it easier for me to do what I love to do. We are full partners, and I am grateful for that.

All of my children and even their children, we are too often being asked to defend what I did or what I believed or, more often, what people assumed I believed that they got to be a part of history too. Charlie Blunt was flying on Air Force One with President Bush on his second birthday. Who gets to do that?

I will admit, though, however, no one in my family ever said, I wish you would quit. But when I did announce, did decide I was going to leave 2 years ago, I notice that no one said "Are you sure?" except Abby, who did say "Are you sure?"

I have often said if you can only have one skill, that one skill should be hiring. And what a great staff that skill and good luck have produced for me.

My incredible chief of staff, Stacy McBride, has been responsible for so much of what we have gotten done. My deputy chief for the State, Derek Coats, led a great team that did so much for our State and in helping people deal with the Federal Government. My deputy chief of staff here, Richard Eddings, is, along with me, completing 26 years in the Congress and 26 years of working together. He managed the details for the whip's office in the House and the details for our office in the Senate.

The Rules Committee staff takes responsibility to help manage the daily infrastructure of the Senate. No issue is too small or too big. Everything from security decisions for the Presidential inauguration to a recent call to ask whether we could release someone's pet owl in the Russell courtyard so that the owl would have a home and we would all appreciate it. Senator KLOBUCHAR and I quickly decided it probably wouldn't be good for the Russell courtyard or the owl, so that owl was not released.

The Republican Policy Committee staff deals with every vote on the floor, every nomination, every issue. There is

a paper out there explaining all of those things, every bill that has been filed, every amendment, even to the dreaded vote-arama that staff was getting an amendment ready so voters know what they see.

Let me end this farewell with two things: One is another thank-you to Missouri voters.

In my view, the need to find a solution to a problem really took place and took shape in the Greene County courthouse. I have been in all 115 of our counties since I announced I wasn't going to run again. There have been some question in my house as to the judgment of that schedule, but we are through that now, so it is done. In a lot of those courthouses, I was visiting with county officials and said: In my view, there is nowhere in America you are more likely to get a solution to a governmental problem than a county courthouse filled with local elected officials who want to do everything they can possibly do for you to feel like you left with everything done that could possibly be done.

And then, going to be the first Republican secretary of state elected in Missouri in 52 years when I won that office in 1984, I never thought my leading argument was: Why don't you vote for the first Republican ever. I thought it was: If you vote for me, I will do this job, and you will be pleased that you did give me a chance to do it. So I am grateful to them and grateful for the experience.

There is a story that Senator KLOBUCHAR has told more often than I have. When I became the chief deputy whip, on my way to becoming the whip of the House, the first month of my second term in the Congress, I moved from the Cannon Building to the Capitol Building. And I looked on the top of the bookcase in my office, my new office in the Congress, and there was this bust of a person up there.

And I said to my staff: Let's find out who that is. So they come back a couple of weeks later, and they have got these newspaper articles from the 1930s and 1960s, and they say: Well, nobody knows who that is.

It is obvious when you get that bust down and look at it that it is a cleric. So it was the unknown cleric, and it has been with me ever since in one of my offices here.

The point of the unknown cleric, this is a bust that was put in the Capitol probably no earlier than 1830, and by 1930, nobody had any idea who it was.

I had lots of meetings with new freshman members in the House when I was a whip and a number of meetings with people who just happened to be around and would listen to this. I said: The point of this is somebody is famous enough that they made a bust, put it in the Capitol, and then forgot who they are. The point is: What we do here is more important than who we are. Thanks for letting me do part of it with you.

I yield the floor.

(Applause.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The junior Senator from Missouri.

TRIBUTE TO ROY BLUNT

Mr. HAWLEY. Mr. President, if I could, just a brief word of thanks and commemoration for my friend, the senior Senator from Missouri, ROY BLUNT. It has been an incredible privilege to get to serve with Senator BLUNT these last 3½ years. In a sense, I don't know that I would be here in the U.S. Senate were it not for Senator BLUNT.

I think Senator BLUNT was one of—maybe the first person to urge me to consider running for the U.S. Senate, and it has been a true privilege to get to serve alongside him.

He and Abby have been so kind to me and Erin on a personal basis. They were with us throughout the campaign. He was through all of the ups and down, as anybody who has been through a campaign knows. Roy was there. They were there with us on the final days on the bus, with Charlie, as I recall, who, between my boys and Charlie—Charlie was the calming influence on my kid. So they were all the life of the party.

But from that moment forward, ROY and Abby were such good friends and mentors to us. ROY gave me advice about what it is like to raise a family in politics—something that I was just starting out to do. He gave me advice on things large and small in the Senate: helping me understand how the floor worked, helping me choose my first committee assignments. I remember he made time to sit down and talk through that with me about this time, gosh, 4 years ago now. He has been there every time I have had a question, needed help, needed to understand something.

It has been a privilege to get to work together with him on substantive issues that we both care about. I think of veterans in our home State. I think just recently he and I were able to get together to lead a resolution honoring Jared Schmitz, who is one of the marines who lost their lives at Abbey Gate just over a year ago. I saw Jared's father just a few weeks ago, and he remains grateful for what Senator BLUNT did in our continuing efforts to honor him.

ROY and I have worked together for years now to try to get our Nation's laws changed to make sure that the tragedy we saw at Table Rock Lake in our home State involving the failure of duck boats, recreational vehicles, in that State would not happen again. I appreciate ROY's efforts on that. Maybe this is one of the things we will get over the line here in the next couple of weeks.

I want to close—I know there are others who want to speak—I want to close with two stories about Senator BLUNT that I have always loved and that I think really give you insight into ROY BLUNT the man.

The first is his background, his heritage, being raised on a dairy farm. He

mentioned this. I think about this every time I drive home to Ozark, MO, and I drive by the exit near where Senator BLUNT's family farm was. Every time, I usually point out to my boys that this is where Senator BLUNT is from.

Senator BLUNT grew up on a dairy farm. He was the first in his family to go to college, I think.

Is that right? Senator, have I got that right?

He was the first in his family to go to college, and then—this is one of the stories I love—he taught at the same school where his grandfather had been a custodial worker years before. There is something wonderfully Missourian and wonderfully American about that.

One of my other favorite stories is about how Senator BLUNT got into politics. I am told—now, he can say whether or not this is apocryphal, but I am told that his first job in politics was when a certain Missourian known as John Ashcroft, who once held the Senate seat I now occupy, ran unsuccessfully for Congress in 1972.

The story goes that ROY walked into his campaign office and said: I would like to work for you.

John Ashcroft said: Well, how much gas do you have in your car?

ROY said: Well, I have a full tank.

John said: Good. You are hired.

And ROY went to work.

The thing about ROY BLUNT, for anybody who has known him for any length of time and certainly for anybody who has served with him in this body, working on any project of any scale, is that ROY BLUNT is a worker. He works day and night. When he says he is going to do something, he does it. When he commits to something, he sees it through. That certainly has been my happy experience with him. He leaves a great legacy of service and commitment and honor in the State of Missouri and here in the U.S. Senate.

I want to say again, ROY, thank you for everything.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. STABENOW). The Senator from Minnesota.

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Madam President, I want to thank ROY. We have been through a lot together, and I am so proud to call him a friend, as well as Abby. I have such fond memories of our work together. I have really fun memories of when we once went to Canada—remember that?—with all the Canadian interparliamentarian groups; the work we did on adoption when no one thought we could get anything done, and we stood up for a number of really important bills; and the work we did on travel and tourism to make sure our country could compete with other countries around the world when it came to foreign tourists.

One of my favorite ones was when Senator DUCKWORTH was pregnant and wanted to have permission to bring her baby on the floor just for the first year or 6 months when there were late-night votes and the like. I thought that was

going to be really easy, and I told her we could get it done. Then, every single month, I looked at her, and she was getting more and more pregnant, and I realized I wasn't accomplishing my job. ROY and I worked on that together.

One of my fond memories of that is Senator Hatch being surrounded by media and being asked about it, and he said: Well, that is OK if we have 1 baby on the floor, but what if we have 10 babies on the floor? I said: We already have 10 babies on the floor.

In any case, we were able to get that done.

As ROY mentioned, on a more serious topic, the sexual harassment rules—we instituted training, but we also updated the rules, which is a very difficult issue. We were working with Senator MCCONNELL and working with Senator SCHUMER, as well as the House, to get that done.

Our work on protecting election officials—ROY, having been a previous election official, understood that. We had a bipartisan hearing with the secretaries of state from red States and blue States. That was a major moment for me.

But probably the thing I most remember was on January 6 when we had started the morning with this beautiful celebration and the ceremony of this walk with the young women with the mahogany boxes. Everyone here knows exactly what I am talking about. The insurrection went on, and ROY showed so much leadership that entire day in working with his colleagues, because while the police were on the frontlines, as we recognized today, ROY was doing a lot of work in working out how the process was going to work once we got through there. You know, he was the guy who made that work late into the night.

Then, in the end, at about 3:30 in the morning, it was Vice President PENCE and ROY and myself and those three pairs of pages with the mahogany boxes, walking through the corridors, where we knew that throughout the Capitol there was broken glass and spray-painted columns, and ROY just kept doing his job.

Afterwards, when we got to the House, we knew that democracy had prevailed.

We came back to the Senate—remember this?—and the Sun was coming up. It is like 4 in the morning at this point, and we decided to go down to the Parliamentarian's offices, which were destroyed. One of the beloved members of our Parliamentarian's staff's family picture was on the floor. The whole thing was a mess. We stood there and committed that we were going to not just clean up the Capitol and improve the security but make this all better. That kind of drove my work in the last year.

But what I most remember about that particular moment at 4 in the morning is that we walked out of that room, which was ransacked, and ROY looked at me, and he looked at me with

that typical ROY understatement, and he said: Well, see you tomorrow morning. And I go: OK, ROY.

That is ROY. He did what he said he would do. We did a report immediately on security in the Capitol—we got it done in 6 months—with Senator PETERS and Senator PORTMAN about what had to be done. We made a bunch of changes. We hired a new chief, and we went on from there, because, for ROY, it is always, I will see you in the morning.

And we know, ROY, that we are going to see you in the morning, that you are not going to be a stranger, that you will stay a friend to so many of us. Thank you for your incredible service to the people of your State, to this Senate, and to the United States of America.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Mississippi.

Mr. WICKER. Madam President, just very briefly, I have served in three legislative bodies during my lifetime: the Mississippi State Senate, the U.S. House of Representatives, and then, since New Year's Eve of 2007, here in the United States Senate. I have never had a better friend in any legislative capacity than ROY BLUNT. So this is a very profound moment for me and a very emotional moment for me.

If there were ever anyone who was a born legislator, that person is ROY BLUNT. He sprang to this Earth with the ability to understand a diverse group of individuals representing diverse parts of the country, both in the House and in the Senate, and to bring them together for a result. This country is so much better off because of the legislative skills and the legislative accomplishments of ROY BLUNT. There are people who are well today who had been sick, and they are well because of the efforts of ROY BLUNT. There are people alive today who would not have been had it not been for the legislative skill of ROY BLUNT.

This Republic will go on and this body will go on, of course, but there will be a void in this room, in this Chamber, in this Senate, because of the absence of ROY BLUNT. I don't remember a finer mentor whom I have ever served with, and it is my great honor to count him as a close friend forever and to salute his service today.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

Ms. COLLINS. Madam President, when Senator ROY BLUNT announced that he would not seek reelection, he promised to finish strong. As has been the case throughout his public service, he has kept his word.

ROY is not only an effective Senator and a persuasive advocate, but, as Senator WICKER just mentioned, he is also a good friend to so many of us.

On the Appropriations Committee, we have worked together particularly closely when it has come to biomedical research aimed at preventing, treating, and curing Alzheimer's disease.

The fiscal year 2022 funding bill included a historic \$3.5 billion for Alzheimer's research, and that tremendous success would not have come about but for the leadership of ROY BLUNT. It has been truly outstanding. He has extraordinary vision in understanding the need for biomedical research that produces the medical breakthroughs.

The American people also saw ROY's effectiveness with the work he did with Senator BURR on Operation Warp Speed. That was responsible for the development of the COVID vaccines in record time. No one thought that the partnership between the Federal Government and the private sector would be able to produce a vaccine so quickly, but ROY swept away the bureaucratic obstacles, he provided the funding, and most of all, he provided the vision. As a result of ROY's work, we have a COVID vaccine that has saved the lives of so many people.

Serving with ROY not only on the Appropriations Committee but also on the Intelligence Committee, I have seen firsthand the extraordinary number of contributions he has made to our country. He is an experienced and skillful legislator who has the vision to write policy that makes a real difference.

ROY has mentioned the role that he has played as master of ceremonies for the inauguration of President Biden. At the time, he delivered brief remarks on the preamble to our Constitution, observing that it establishes the uniquely American principle that government derives its authority from "we the people." Our ongoing mission to create a "more perfect Union" is a continuing project, ROY noted, adding that "we are more than we have been and we are less than we hope to be."

ROY, you have played a key role in advancing that mission, and it has been such an honor to serve with you. I wish you, Abby, Charlie, and the rest of your family all the best in the years to come.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. SHELBY. Madam President, on ROY BLUNT, I first met him when he was a whip in the House. We had some kind of conference going, and I thought: My gosh, he can count votes. He is the whip. He can count votes in the conference, too, and so forth.

And then, when he came and started running for the Senate, I was one of many over here who wanted to help him get here. And when he came in, as has been said here, he went right into the leadership because he is a leader.

ROY, you have got it in you. You are a natural. It is in your bones, so to speak. And you have brought a lot to this Senate.

I have worked with you on just about everything, but especially on the Appropriations Committee, and you have been stellar. You have a great family. You have a great wife. You have a son who is the former Governor of the State of Missouri. We would miss you,

but I won't be one of the "we's." I will be gone too. But at the same time, they will miss you here. But they will miss you reaching out to the other side to make things happen. Reaching out to show that America is first; the country is first—and reaching out just over the aisle and to others with natural friendship, which means a lot up here and something we need to do more of.

But we wish you well. You will do well in your next life, whatever that is, and maybe we will see you again after January sometime.

I would like to start by thanking my good friend from Missouri, Senator ROY BLUNT, for his decades of dedicated service.

We have served together in the Senate for 12 years, and together in Congress for 26 years.

I remember when Senator BLUNT was first elected to the House of Representatives in 1996 and later to the Senate in 2010.

ROY is a fifth generation Missourian who grew up on a dairy farm.

Before coming to Washington, he was a high school history teacher and later a county official for 12 years.

In 1984, ROY was elected to be the first Republican secretary of state in more than 50 years in the State of Missouri.

He then served as the president of his alma mater, Southwest Baptist University, which undoubtedly prepared him for his many years of prioritizing education funding as the lead Republican Senator on the Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations Subcommittee.

Senator BLUNT has been a force in the Senate, sitting on the Appropriations Committee; the Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee; the Select Committee on Intelligence; and chairing the important Rules Committee.

Notably, Senator BLUNT was elected to the Senate leadership during his first year in the Senate.

He is currently the chair of the Senate Republican Policy Committee, a vital arm within our Republican leadership.

As I mentioned, he is the top Republican on the Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education.

In this position, we have worked together to grow NIH funding, which has increased 51 percent in the past 7 years; prioritize medical research, and improve access to quality education.

Senator BLUNT has also been instrumental in protecting the Hyde amendment and other long-standing pro-life provisions in this bill.

As the chairman of the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies, he planned and spoke during the 59th Presidential inauguration in 2021.

This was an important moment for our Nation.

While Senator BLUNT's service in the Senate has been significant, I would be remiss if I didn't mention that he was

also a powerful force in the House of Representatives, where he was elected seven times to represent Missouri's seventh district.

In the House, ROY was elected the majority whip earlier in his career than any Member of Congress in eight decades.

He also served as the acting House majority leader for a period of time.

Senator BLUNT has a reputation for being a statesman and a longstanding record of working in a bipartisan manner to get things done.

His dedication to the betterment of our country has been invaluable.

I want to thank Senator BLUNT for his service, as well as his wife Abigail, along with his four children and six grandchildren.

Annette and I have enjoyed their friendship over the years.

I wish Senator BLUNT the best in his next chapter.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. GILLIBRAND). The Senator from North Carolina.

Mr. BURR. Madam President, I rise today to remind my colleagues of what we have often heard: In Washington, if you want a friend, get a dog.

ROY BLUNT destroys that because Roy has been a true friend. Our relationship goes back to the House, though. The Senator wasn't whip when I was there. Clearly, he came in, and the math got better.

But Abby is a strong woman. She has put up with a lot, as have all of our spouses. And, Abby, I hope you have a wonderful chapter in what is in store for him next.

I want to speak from the standpoint of chair of the Intelligence Committee, and the fact that I work with 14 extraordinary people who understand upfront that they are going to learn a lot, they are going to be faced with some tough decisions, and they are not going to be able to talk to their colleagues, their friends, their family about anything that goes on.

There can be some rather difficult days to go through, as we have seen over the 18 years I have been in the Senate and—16, 14?

MR. BLUNT. Twelve.

Mr. BURR. And the 12 that ROY has been in. But I have got to say that I never questioned whether ROY was going to be prepared, whether he was going to attend, whether he was going to absorb what he heard, and, more importantly, whether he was going to make a prudent decision about what we do.

I can say that he mirrors the other 13—Susan, you being one of them—and I think that what ROY brings to this representation from Missouri is not only a man of character but a true leader.

I expected to hear in your farewell address the words of Harry Truman, and I am paraphrasing when I say this because I can't remember the direct quote, but he was referencing all the things we think about that we do.

But Truman boiled it down to this: The only things that matter are what happens in this room, in the U.S. Senate.

And as we all three of us think of our departures, I don't think Missouri yet understands the loss that they have got by not having ROY BLUNT here. But I do understand this: There are 99 other Members of the Senate who understand what the Senate will lose with ROY BLUNT's decision to retire.

So for all the good that you have done, Roy, I wish you many years of success from this point forward.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

Ms. STABENOW. Madam President, it is an honor to join with my colleagues to speak about someone that is a dear friend. And I have often said to the Senator: You are not really leaving; I am putting you in a closet and locking the door, and we are not letting you leave.

But then I know that Abby and Charlie and your whole family would not appreciate that.

We first met back in the 1980s, when Senator BLUNT was the secretary of state in Missouri and I was a State legislator. It was the first year that the national Jaycees went from 10 outstanding young men to 10 outstanding young Americans, and I had the honor of being one of three women honored that year. But we met in Tulsa, OK, and ROY has often joked that we met in a hotel room, but then he quickly explains what that was to Abby. But we had the opportunity to be there together.

And then it wasn't until the 1996 election. We were both elected to the U.S. House. We were standing on the steps of the U.S. House, outside, to take a picture of the freshman class, and 1996 it was, the end of the year. I turn around, and ROY BLUNT is standing right next to me. And I said: I know you.

We gathered together again and really struck up a friendship. Then we both were on the House Agriculture Committee, and the very first bill I think either of us ever introduced was this very exciting bill about wheat germ. So I often was asked what was the first bill I ever introduced, and it was a wheat disease bill. But ROY and I got it done and went on to really form a wonderful friendship ever since.

I was very excited when he then joined us in the U.S. Senate. As many people know, in addition to our having led the bills on community health centers, we have partnered together on a new concept of community behavioral health clinics, actually, funding mental health and addiction services the same as physical health, and that started 10 years ago.

We stood on the floor of the Senate when we first introduced the bill and talked about how President John F. Kennedy had actually signed—the last law he ever signed, the last act he ever

signed, in 1963, was an act to create community mental health centers. And the idea was to close, at that time, what they called asylums and give people community care; care close to home, families, support people; to be able to be in the community and be successful. Well, the hospitals got closed, but the rest of it never happened.

So I am so honored to have partnered, and want to continue to partner, with ROY as he leaves here for other things, to move forward the rest of the story, which is effective community care for folks, not in a jail, not in an emergency department, but in the community, with their family, allowing them to be successful and work and living their lives because they are getting the care that they need. So I am very honored to have had the opportunity to work with ROY on that as well.

Now, Senator WICKER was talking, and I thought he might have said something about the trip that we took together to Asia with Senator BLUNT. Senator BLUNT was wonderful at putting together bipartisan trips, and we had the opportunity to go to a number of places in Australia because part of everything else that he does is that he has been one of the leaders in an inter-parliamentary partnership with the United States of America and Australia. And I was pleased, I think last year, to see you receive a very significant honor here because of your work.

But we had an opportunity to travel together with Abby and for all of us to be together and really show a bipartisan front to other world leaders.

I will say as an aside that you never want to play cards with him because he is a very good card player, and I have often said that I think he counts cards because he is so good.

On a serious note, I really am going to miss this gentleman from Missouri. I am proud to have him as a friend, as a partner, and someone who really exemplifies what it means to be a statesman, to be a public servant.

And I just send you all my best and all my love for you and your family.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Mississippi.

Mr. WICKER. I ask unanimous consent that Senator COLLINS, Senator INHOFE, and I be allowed to give our remarks before the next vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. WICKER. Madam President, as we see, this is that difficult time of the year when we pause and say goodbye, farewell, and Godspeed to departing Members of this body.

Senator COLLINS and I are prepared to act as a team at this moment to wish the very best and pay tribute to two individuals, RICHARD SHELBY of Alabama and JIM INHOFE of Oklahoma.

TRIBUTE TO RICHARD SHELBY

Senator SHELBY is a gifted legislator and a southern gentleman whose impact on this Nation will not soon be

forgotten. His colleagues and constituents know him for his long record of championing economic development and as a champion in the House of Representatives and in the Senate for our military, as leader of the Appropriations Committee here in the Senate.

RICHARD SHELBY is the quintessential problem-solver. He has always known how to sit down, negotiate, and get a result, and I wish him the best in this final month of his career in once again getting a result.

Indeed, the jobs created through RICHARD SHELBY's legislation and committee work number in the hundreds of thousands—the hundreds of thousands of jobs.

So it is no surprise that there are now monuments to RICHARD SHELBY's leadership all over Alabama and the entire Nation. As his next door neighbors across the State line, we Mississippians have directly benefited from his leadership.

So I wish him and his wife Annette well as they begin the next chapter.

TRIBUTE TO JAMES M. INHOFE

Madam President, now I turn to my friend the senior Senator from Oklahoma, JIM INHOFE, a man who I have had the privilege of working with on the Armed Services Committee these last 14 years.

Senator INHOFE represented Oklahoma for 28 years in this body and 6 years before that in the House of Representatives. In all of those years, he could always be counted on to attend every single Wednesday morning Prayer Breakfast and Thursday Bible study. One time, he had to attend by telephone because he was called away by a family crisis. But we could always count on him.

He has been a close friend on both sides of the aisle to people like Barbara Boxer of California, JACK REED of Rhode Island, BERNIE SANDERS of Vermont, and Democratic Leader Harry Reid. Perhaps it was those friendships that explained his mountain of legislative success, with bipartisan achievements that include three highway bills, four Water Resources and Development Acts, seven National Defense Authorization Acts, including the current bill pending before this body—a bill which literally bears his name.

But that success also came from his breadth-of-life experience. He understood how to create jobs because, he himself, had done that as a businessman for 30 years, working in aviation, real estate, and insurance. He understood the challenges of local government because he had been the mayor of Tulsa and a State legislator. As a leader on the Armed Services Committee, he could speak for our men and women in uniform because he had been one of them, having served in the Army.

As a personal friend of Ronald Reagan, he never wavered in advocating for peace through strength. Oklahoma's five military bases are unquestionably better off today because

of their staunch advocate, Senator JIM INHOFE.

Thanks to his leadership, veterans have better facilities, our Air Force is better equipped, and the military now has AFRICOM as a distinct mission on the African continent. It bears saying that Senator INHOFE has a long-standing affection for Africa and the people of Africa. There is no one in Congress—or in the State Department, for that matter—who can surpass his personal knowledge of African leaders.

On a typical congressional delegation trip, he would hit an average of 12 countries in 10 days, covering 18,000 miles and meeting with civilian and military leaders at every stop, always looking for an opportunity to pray with them, always visiting American troops.

He has been to Africa more times than any Member of Congress since America's founding—172 visits on the African continent.

When he isn't making law or traveling the globe or watching his grandsons' athletic events, there is a good chance he is in the air somewhere flying a Cessna because Senator INHOFE is also Pilot INHOFE, with nearly 12,000 hours of flight time, including a solo flight around the world.

He will also be remembered for that 1991 trip in which he flew the flight path of Wiley Post, which went straight through Russian airspace. His Russian escort pilot even remarked on his outstanding piloting skills.

As JIM INHOFE departs this Chamber, he leaves behind a wealth of friends and an army of former staff whose talent and loyalty are a testament to the man himself.

I know he will look forward to spending more time with his wife of 63 years, Kay, and his 20 grandchildren and—his 20 children and grandchildren.

Both of these gentlemen, both of these friends, JIM INHOFE and RICHARD SHELBY, will go down as titans of the Senate. Their enormous contributions to the good of our Nation will not soon be forgotten, and we will miss their company.

I wish them both farewell and Godspeed.

And now I yield to my friend, the Senator from Maine, Ms. COLLINS, for her remarks about these two outstanding friends.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. OSSOFF). The Senator from Maine.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, what a pleasure it is to join Senator WICKER in paying tribute to our dear friends and outstanding colleagues, Senators JIM INHOFE and RICHARD SHELBY.

We could talk about their accomplishments on the floor for many, many hours, but in the interest of time, we are going to focus—as has my colleague from Mississippi—on their truly outstanding contributions to our national security.

Their unwavering commitment to the security of our Nation and the well-being of our servicemembers has been truly remarkable.

TRIBUTE TO JAMES M. INHOFE

Mr. President, let me start with JIM INHOFE. A veteran of the U.S. Army, JIM has been a champion for enhancing our national security and providing our brave servicemen and -women with the resources that they need to carry out their missions.

Through his leadership of the Senate Armed Services Committee, JIM has ensured that the Senate completed its annual work on the National Defense Authorization Act, and he has made countless contributions to the military that have made our country safer.

His selection by the Association of the United States Army as its 2022 Legislator of the Year recognizes his unwavering dedication for the total Army—our soldiers, our families, caregivers, and veterans.

As a constitutional conservative, JIM firmly adheres to his principles, while always being willing to seek out bipartisan compromises wherever possible.

JIM has been a leader in strengthening the ties between the United States and the nations of Africa.

As my colleague from Mississippi has mentioned—but I am going to reiterate because it is so astonishing—Senator INHOFE has visited the continent of Africa an astonishing 172 times as a Senator.

He is particularly close to the nation of Ethiopia. It is close to his heart for many reasons, including the fact that it is the birthplace of one of his granddaughters.

He puts his faith into action through his staunch support of Project Mercy, a nonprofit organization that has led the way in helping raise Ethiopians out of poverty and extreme hunger.

The enduring friendships that JIM has made with both his Republican and Democratic colleagues here in the Senate reflect not only his ability to find common ground, but also his kindness, his good heart as well.

I deeply value our friendship and our service together in the U.S. Senate.

TRIBUTE TO RICHARD SHELBY

Mr. President, let me now say a few words about another dear friend and extraordinary leader, Senator RICHARD SHELBY of Alabama.

As chairman and vice chair of both the Appropriations Committee and of the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, RICHARD SHELBY has dedicated himself to ensuring that the United States remains the world's most advanced and effective military force. He has ensured that our Nation's servicemembers are equipped with the tools that they need to protect and defend our country.

I know that the people of Alabama are so proud of his countless contributions to his State. He has worked tirelessly to support the servicemembers, veterans, and defense industry workers who call Alabama home. Redstone Arsenal, Maxwell Air Force Base, and Fort Rucker are all vital national hubs for various military commands and activities due to the leadership of RICHARD SHELBY.

RICHARD's legislative influence has been extraordinarily broad. He has chaired four Senate committees—Appropriations, Rules, Intelligence, and Banking, where he holds the record for the longest tenure of committee membership.

His extensive knowledge, combined with the deep bonds that he has forged with his fellow Members of Congress in both the Senate and the House, has enabled him to compile an extensive list of accomplishments.

Serving with RICHARD on the Appropriations Committee, I have witnessed firsthand his command of policy and his skill as a negotiator. He truly is a master legislator, always focused on securing tangible results.

One example that stands out occurred in 2018, when he took over as chairman of the Appropriations Committee. Under his leadership, the fiscal year 2019 Defense bill marked the first time that America's military had been funded on time through regular order in a decade. RICHARD SHELBY did it.

RICHARD has also played a crucial role in positioning our country as a leader in scientific achievement, advancement, exploration, and discovery. He looks to the future, placing a premium on funding innovative research in areas such as hypersonics, quantum computing, and artificial intelligence.

From the early days of the space race to today, Alabama has been a vital hub of cutting-edge research on propulsion and space systems, particularly through the Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville. Richard has consistently ensured that funding would be there for NASA to preserve America's superiority in the final frontier.

As their service in the U.S. Senate draws to a close, Senator JIM INHOFE and Senator RICHARD SHELBY will go down in history and long be remembered for their dedication to our Armed Forces and their determination to keep America free and strong. Their legacy will continue to inspire all of us to meet the challenges that lie ahead.

I thank all of them; I thank both of them. I thank their wives Kay and Annette for their service as well. And it is a great pleasure to join with my colleague ROGER WICKER in paying tribute to two extraordinary Senators.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota.

Mr. HOEVEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to make 5-minute remarks before the vote is called.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. HOEVEN. Mr. President, I wanted to get to the floor today to say thank you to some colleagues that are truly deserving of it. There are three of them here. My understanding is that Senator SHELBY, or "The Chairman," as I call him, has not yet made his farewell speech, so I am going to reserve my laudatory comments for somebody who I will always consider "the chairman" of the Appropriations Committee, even when he is the rank-

ing member and even when he is not here. He is truly the chairman, and I have learned so much from him and am deeply appreciative for his incredible work and want to talk about that at greater length after he has made his floor speech.

TRIBUTE TO JAMES M. INHOFE

Mr. President, I do want to take the opportunity, though, to thank Senator Jim Inhofe for his incredible leadership of the military affairs committee—the Senate Armed Services, excuse me, and his dedication and his commitment to our military.

In North Dakota, we have the Minot Air Force Base, we have the Grand Forks Air Force Base; so I am particularly appreciative that Senator INHOFE is, in fact, a pilot because not only is he a steadfast advocate for our military in every respect, but as a pilot, certainly, the Air Force is something that he understands, appreciates, and has provided incredible support for the amazing work that our men and women in uniform in blue do.

And as I have worked on issues related to my State at the Minot Air Force Base and the Grand Forks Air Force Base, without exception, when I have gone to Chairman or Ranking Member INHOFE for discussions and help on issues important to the Air Force in general, but certainly to our bases, he has been there and his understanding and his commitment to listen, to truly be a gentleman, to listen, and to consider what it is you are working on—he wasn't always able to do it just the way you hoped maybe it should get done, but he always made sure that he worked through the issue in a fair way and came to a good result. And in many cases, that result occurred in the near term; sometimes it took a little longer.

But I think that commitment to consider everybody's point of view and work with both sides of the aisle—his relationship with current Chairman JACK REED I think is remarkable, and I think the two of them leading our Armed Services Committee has made a big difference. Their relationship and how they approach things, which in many ways is similar, is the reason we have been able to get the NDAA legislation passed across the floor, even at times when it has been very difficult to do. They have led the way, and I know that they are working hard and will continue to lead the way again this year on the NDAA, and Senator INHOFE will be deeply missed. He is truly a friend and an advocate for our military, and his incredible devotion to them will be missed. And we thank him for it and for, as a colleague, the way he has approached every issue that he has worked on during his time here in the U.S. Senate.

TRIBUTE TO ROY BLUNT

Mr. President, I also want to thank and extoll for just several minutes Senator ROY BLUNT.

I think anybody who has worked with Senator BLUNT would state that he is

incredibly intelligent. He is one of those people you realize how smart he is not because of how much he says but actually sometimes how little he says, meaning he can express thoughts and concepts so cogently, and that takes a very sharp mind to actually say something profound with a minimum number of words and not in a long and rambling speech. He has common sense that sometimes you don't realize until you work with him a little bit and just listen to him a little bit.

He has played a prominent role as a member of our leadership team. I worked with him on Appropriations as well, on the Appropriations Committee with our able chairman, as I mentioned earlier. But invariably what I found is that when you talk to Senator ROY BLUNT, if what you are talking about makes common sense—common sense—he is almost always there.

He is one of the most pragmatic, well-reasoned, thoughtful Senators we have. Again, in a way, he is a master of the understatement, where, like I say, in just a few words or a cogent thought, he can get to the heart of the issues.

I want to go through just one story about him before I yield the floor. When I first came in as a Senator in 2011, after having worked as Governor for our State of North Dakota, for the prior decade, one of the things that immediately came up when I met ROY BLUNT and talked to him about issues is the Missouri River. North Dakota is on the north end and, obviously, Missouri is on the south end and we have some different ideas about how the waters of the Missouri River should be managed and utilized for the great people of our respective States and all the people in between.

As they used to say in the West and probably still do: Whiskey is for drinking, and water is for fighting.

And we battled on every imaginable issue that you can think of on the Missouri River. Senator Kit Bond, a former Senator from Missouri, and our Senators were at loggerheads all the time on water issues relative to the great Missouri River.

So right off the bat, actually, Senator BLUNT sought me out and said: You know, our predecessors did nothing but fight on the Missouri River. Let's see if we can't figure out a way where we can work together.

And I said: Gee, that sounds good to me.

So the first thing we did is we set up a trip. We started at the north end. We actually started at Fort Peck in Montana and went all the way, starting at the north end all the way down—from the northwest all the way down to the southeast end of the river and ended up in St. Louis, MO. We stopped all along the way at all the dams and reservoirs and every place of significance and talked about the issues, tried to understand what everybody needed.

I have to say, over the last 12 years, I am not sure we agreed on every as-

pect of managing the Missouri River but the vast, vast majority—I think both of our States and the States in between have benefited from that. We have been able to do, I think, some remarkable things with the Corps of Engineers because we took that approach to see if we couldn't figure out how to work together on something of tremendous consequence not only for both of our respective States but for the country. That is the kind of leadership and that is the kind of common sense and wisdom that ROY BLUNT brought to this job every day.

So to Roy and to Abby, friends of Mikey and I, we will truly miss—our conference will truly miss and our institution will miss Senator JIM INHOFE and Senator ROY BLUNT, and we are going to miss the chairman, too, but I will talk about him on another occasion.

I yield the floor.

NOMINATION OF FRANCES KAY BEHM

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today, the Senate will vote to confirm Judge Frances Kay Behm to the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan. She is a highly experienced jurist who will serve with distinction on the Federal bench. Judge Behm graduated summa cum laude from Albion College and earned her J.D. from the University of Michigan Law School. After law school, she spent more than a decade in private practice, representing a broad range of clients in business litigation, transactional matters, and probate proceedings, as well as preparing estate planning documents.

In 2009, then-Governor Jennifer Granholm appointed Judge Behm to serve as a judge for the Genesee County, MI, circuit and probate courts. On the bench, she has presided over a wide range of cases—including criminal, civil, juvenile, and probate matters. As a family court judge, Judge Behm has presided over approximately 1,600 bench trials and three jury trials. Since 2019, she has presided over 16 bench trials and 18 jury trials on the general/civil/criminal division/business court.

Judge Behm has the strong support of her home State Senators, Ms. STABENOW and Mr. PETERS. In addition, she received a unanimous rating of “well qualified” from the American Bar Association. I am proud to support Judge Behm's nomination, and I urge my colleagues to do so as well.

NOMINATION OF KELLEY BRISBON HODGE

Mr. President, today, the Senate will vote to confirm another highly qualified judicial nominee: Kelley Hodge to the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

A graduate of the University of Virginia and the University of Richmond T.C. Williams School of Law, Ms. Hodge has a range of legal experience that will serve her well as a judge. Ms. Hodge has worked in the courtroom as both a public defender in Richmond, VA, and as a prosecutor in the district attorney's office in Philadelphia, PA.

And in 2017, she became the first African-American woman to serve as the district attorney for the city of Philadelphia. In addition, Ms. Hodge is an expert in juvenile justice and education policy, having served as the Safe Schools Advocate for the city of Philadelphia, acting director of the Pennsylvania Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, and the first full-time title IX coordinator for the University of Virginia.

Since returning to private practice, Ms. Hodge has advised clients on discrimination and harassment matters, government compliance, and internal investigations. Moreover, she has served as an adjudicator for various colleges and universities in administrative proceedings involving title IX or violations of student codes of conduct.

Given her courtroom and adjudication experience, it is no surprise that the American Bar Association rated Ms. Hodge as unanimously “well qualified.” In addition, she enjoys the strong, bipartisan support of Senators Casey and Toomey.

I support this highly qualified nominee, and I urge my colleagues to do so as well.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that my floor statement on the judge we are about to vote on be completed before the vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Ms. STABENOW. Having listened already to speak about Senator BLUNT, I also want to say my thanks and best wishes to Senator INHOFE and Senator SHELBY. I had an opportunity in the EPW Committee to speak more about my work with Senator INHOFE, but to both of you, we deeply appreciate your service to our country.

NOMINATION OF FRANCES KAY BEHM

Mr. President, I rise today in strong support of Judge F. Kay Behm, who President Biden nominated to serve on the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan. Judge Behm represents the very best of Michigan.

She and her four siblings grew up on a dairy farm in Alma, milking cows and bailing hay and driving tractors and doing all of the other tasks that life on a farm demands. During the 1980's farm crisis, her parents nearly lost their farm.

That experience changed Judge Behm forever. It led her to pursue degrees in business and law so that she could help other Michigan families.

She graduated from Alma College and the University of Michigan Law School. She worked in private practice for 15 years. In 2009, she was appointed as a trial judge in Genesee County by Gov. Jennifer Granholm.

During her time as a judge, she has never forgotten her humble roots, and she has worked hard to ensure that everyone who appears before her is truly seen and heard. As a judge on the Genesee County circuit and probate courts,

Judge Behm has presided over cases related to criminal, civil, juvenile, and probate matters.

In 2011, she led a 2-year pilot program in Genesee County to hire and use social workers to improve outcomes in Child Protective Services proceedings. After the pilot program produced a positive result, Judge Behm worked with her staff to develop the intensive family support program to support parents and families involved in the child welfare system.

As a family court judge, Judge Behm has presided over approximately 1,600 bench trials and 3 jury trials. And since 2019, Judge Behm has presided over 16 bench trials and 18 jury trials.

The American Bar Association gave Judge Behm a unanimous rating of "well qualified" to serve on the Federal bench.

She also finds time to serve on the Board of Directors of the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Flint. I have no doubt that Judge Behm will continue to serve the people of Michigan well on the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan, and I would urge my colleagues to support her nomination.

I yield the floor.

VOTE ON FRANCES KAY BEHM

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Behm nomination?

Ms. STABENOW. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY), and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) are necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 49, nays 47, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 376 Ex.]

YEAS—49

Baldwin	Hassan	Rosen
Bennet	Heinrich	Sanders
Blumenthal	Hirono	Schatz
Booker	Kaine	Schumer
Brown	King	Shaheen
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Sinema
Cardin	Leahy	Smith
Carper	Lujan	Stabenow
Casey	Manchin	Tester
Collins	Markey	Tillis
Coons	Menendez	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Warner
Duckworth	Murray	Warren
Durbin	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Feinstein	Padilla	Wyden
Gillibrand	Peters	
Graham	Reed	

NAYS—47

Barrasso	Burr	Cramer
Blackburn	Capito	Crapo
Blunt	Cassidy	
Boozman	Cornyn	Daines
Braun	Cotton	Ernst

Fischer	Lummis	Sasse
Grassley	Marshall	Scott (FL)
Hagerty	McConnell	Scott (SC)
Hawley	Moran	Shelby
Hooven	Murkowski	Sullivan
Hyde-Smith	Paul	Thune
Inhofe	Portman	Toomey
Johnson	Risch	Tuberville
Kennedy	Romney	Wicker
Lankford	Rounds	Young
Lee	Rubio	

NOT VOTING—4

Hickenlooper	Murphy
Kelly	Warnock

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MARKEY). Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's actions.

VOTE ON HODGE NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Hodge nomination?

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY), and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) are necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 52, nays 44, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 377 Ex.]

YEAS—52

Baldwin	Heinrich	Rounds
Bennet	Hirono	Sanders
Blumenthal	Kaine	Schatz
Booker	King	Schumer
Brown	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Cantwell	Leahy	Sinema
Cardin	Lujan	Smith
Carper	Manchin	Stabenow
Casey	Markey	Tester
Collins	Menendez	Tillis
Coons	Merkley	Toomey
Cortez Masto	Murkowski	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Murray	Warner
Durbin	Ossoff	Warren
Feinstein	Padilla	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Peters	Wyden
Graham	Reed	
Hassan	Rosen	

NAYS—44

Barrasso	Fischer	Paul
Blackburn	Grassley	Portman
Blunt	Hagerty	Risch
Boozman	Hawley	Romney
Braun	Hooven	Rubio
Burr	Hyde-Smith	Sasse
Capito	Inhofe	Scott (FL)
Cassidy	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Cornyn	Kennedy	Shelby
Cotton	Lankford	Sullivan
Cramer	Lee	Thune
Crapo	Lummis	Tuberville
Cruz	Marshall	Wicker
Daines	McConnell	Young
Ernst	Moran	

NOT VOTING—4

Hickenlooper	Murphy
Kelly	Warnock

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. HIRONO). Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The Senator from Illinois.

TRIBUTE TO ROY BLUNT

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I know that Senator ROY BLUNT has already delivered his farewell remarks a short time ago. Regrettably, I was tied up in a longstanding appointment and couldn't be on the floor to hear them, but I want to say a few words about my friend from Missouri and thank him for his service to the Senate and to our Nation.

I grew up in East St. Louis, IL, just across the Mississippi River from St. Louis, MO. My hometown now is Springfield, IL, and ROY BLUNT's hometown is Springfield, MO. We often joke about catching the wrong plane to St. Louis and ending up in one another's homes.

Senator BLUNT and I came from different parties, obviously. We have different ideas about a lot of things. But over the 12 years he served his State of Missouri in the Senate, he has become a friend and ally.

Managing the Mississippi River is an issue that we share. Many of the locks and dams that keep the river navigable are nearly 100 years old. For many years now, Senator BLUNT has worked with me and with the Army Corps of Engineers to come up with a plan that we call the Navigation Ecosystem Sustainability Program—shorthand, NESP. It will expand and modernize seven locks at the most congested locations on the upper Mississippi and Illinois Rivers to make sure the waterways can continue to serve as major navigation channels moving crops and other goods.

I am really grateful to ROY BLUNT for his leadership supporting biomedical research. There is a good story here. My partnership with Senator BLUNT started almost 10 years ago. I went up to the National Institutes of Health for a tour and sat down with legendary Dr. Francis Collins, who headed up the Institutes of Health. For years, NIH had limped along with flat funding and sequestration budget cuts. Inadequate funding had really hurt research at NIH. It discouraged a lot of young scientists who just couldn't count on regular funding from Congress, or they chose to maybe move back to other nations where they were born and the research funding was more predictable.

I asked Dr. Collins: What does NIH need?

He said: Just give me 5 percent real growth in our budget every year, consistently, and we will light up the scoreboard with our discoveries and cures.

So I came back and looked for ROY BLUNT. He was the leading Republican on the Appropriations Committee for the National Institutes of Health. He chaired the Labor and HHS Appropriations Subcommittee. We decided to put

together a team. The natural ally on that team was Senator PATTY MURRAY, a Democrat for the State of Washington and the lead Democrat on the HELP Committee and on the Appropriations Committee. We rounded out with two Democrats and two Republicans, the now-retired Senator Lamar Alexander who led the HELP Committee when PATTY MURRAY was ranking member, and vice versa.

We agreed on a common goal, the four of us: 5 percent real growth every year in the National Institutes of Health. In the first year working together, Senator BLUNT overdid it. He helped steer \$2 billion, or 7 percent, to the NIH.

I remember getting a phone call from Roy. It was a few weeks before Christmas. We were on break with our families, and it is uncommon for Senators to call one another under those circumstances. But he called me, and he said he had just spoken with the leaders from Barnes-Jewish Hospital, which is a major health and research institution in St. Louis. They were ecstatic about the care they were able to give their patients and research they were going to undertake because of this new level of funding.

Senator BLUNT said it was unlike any call he had ever received in his congressional career.

Then he said to me, "Durbin, we can't be one-hit wonders." And from there, we were off.

Since 2015, with the help of Senator MURRAY and others, through changes in the Presidency and through pretty divisive times, we succeeded on a bipartisan basis to keep steady, predictable funding for the National Institutes of Health as a bipartisan priority.

Over 7 years, we saw NIH funding increase by more than \$14 billion, a nearly 50-percent increase from where we started. These new investments are supporting hundreds of thousands of jobs nationwide in research institutions large and small. They are saving lives, and they will continue to do so for decades to come.

So I want to personally thank Roy BLUNT, the Senator from Missouri, for his leadership in funding this breakthrough medical research.

I also want to thank his staff for their wisdom and professionalism and calm demeanor. They consistently look for ways to work together for the common good.

Senator BLUNT honored his commitment to medical research and made a difference in America.

I said to him today as we were gathering for a tribute to the Capitol Police for defending us on January 6, I said, "Roy, the reason we all come here is to make a difference in this great nation that we live in. You have made that difference in medical research, and you will be remembered for it."

He has pursued our shared goal with decency, genuine curiosity, and a vision for the promise of medical discovery. There are people here in Amer-

ica today and around the world who are going to have better lives because of ROY BLUNT's commitment. That is a legacy which he can certainly be proud of.

Loretta and I wish him, his wife Abby, and his family all the best as they start this new chapter in life. I am sorry to see him go. I am losing a great friend and a great Senator.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Hampshire.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Ms. HASSAN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the cloture motions with respect to the Perez and Murphy nominations be withdrawn and that notwithstanding rule XXII, tomorrow at 11:30 a.m., the Senate vote on confirmation of the Perez nomination and cloture on the Scott nomination; that if cloture is invoked on the Scott nomination, at 1:30 p.m., the Senate vote on confirmation of the Scott and Murphy nominations; and that at 5 p.m., the Senate vote on cloture on the Hopkins nomination and confirmation of the Blackwell nomination; further, that the cloture motions with respect to the Montgomery-Reeves and Douglas nominations ripen following disposition of the Hopkins nomination; and finally, that if any nominations are confirmed during Wednesday's session of the Senate, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Ms. HASSAN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate consider the following nomination: Calendar No. 1202, Juan Eduardo Sanchez, of Texas, to be Federal Cochairperson of the Southwest Border Regional Commission; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Juan Eduardo Sanchez, of Texas, to be Federal Cochairperson of the Southwest Border Regional Commission. (New Position)

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Sanchez nomination?

The nomination was confirmed.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Ms. HASSAN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Sen-

ate consider the following nominations en bloc: Calendar Nos. 1188, 1196 through 1199, and 1247 through 1252; that the Senate vote on the nominations en bloc without intervening action or debate; the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nominations of Chrissie C. Latimore, of South Carolina, to be United States Marshal for the District of South Carolina for the term of four years; Peter D. Leary, of Georgia, to be United States Attorney for the Middle District of Georgia for the term of four years; McLain J. Schneider, of North Dakota, to be United States Attorney for the District of North Dakota for the term of four years; Leigha Simonton, of Texas, to be United States Attorney for the Northern District of Texas for the term of four years; David C. Davis, of Illinois, to be United States Marshal for the Southern District of Illinois for the term of four years; Jaime E. Esparza, of Texas, to be United States Attorney for the Western District of Texas for the term of four years; Roger B. Handberg, of Florida, to be United States Attorney for the Middle District of Florida for the term of four years; Alamdar S. Hamdani, of Texas, to be United States Attorney for the Southern District of Texas for the term of four years; Markenzy Lapointe, of Florida, to be United States Attorney for the Southern District of Florida for the term of four years; Terry J. Burgin, of North Carolina, to be United States Marshal for the Western District of North Carolina for the term of four years; and Glenn M. McNeill, Jr., of North Carolina, to be United States Marshal for the Eastern District of North Carolina for the term of four years, en bloc?

The nominations were confirmed en bloc.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Ms. HASSAN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision

stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Washington, DC.

Hon. ROBERT MENENDEZ,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 22-66, concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Republic of Korea for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$1.5 billion. We will issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Sincerely,

JAMES A. HURSCHE,
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 22-66

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Republic of Korea.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment * \$1.0 billion.
Other \$.5 billion.

Total \$1.5 billion.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

Eighteen (18) CH-47F Helicopters

Forty-two (42) T55-GA-714A Engines (36 installed, 6 spares).

Twenty-two (22) Common Missile Warning Systems (CMWS) (18 installed, 4 spares).

Forty-four (44) secure radios, RT-1987 (36 installed, 8 spares).

Non-MDE: Also included are AN/APR-39 Radar Warning Systems; AN/ARC-220 HF Airborne Communications Systems; AN/APX-123A IFF transponders; AN/ARN-147; AN/ARN-153; AN/APN-209; secure radios; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical and logistics support services; repair and return; storage; and other related elements of logistical and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Army (KS-B-ZJG).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: None.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: December 6, 2022.

* As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Korea—CH-47F Chinook Helicopters

The Republic of Korea (ROK) has requested to buy eighteen (18) CH-47F helicopters;

forty-two (42) T55-GA-714A engines (36 installed, 6 spares); twenty-two (22) Common Missile Warning Systems (CMWS) (18 installed, 4 spares); and forty-four (44) secure radios, RT-1987 (36 installed, 8 spares). Also included are AN/APR-39 Radar Warning Systems; AN/ARC-220 HF Airborne Communications Systems; AN/APX-123A IFF transponders; AN/ARN-147; AN/ARN-153; AN/APN-209; secure radios; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical and logistics support services; repair and return; storage; and other related elements of logistical and program support. The estimated total program cost is \$1.5 billion.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy goals and national security objectives of the United States by improving the security of a major ally that is a force for political stability and economic progress in the Asia-Pacific region.

The proposed sale will improve the ROK's capability to meet current and future threats by strengthening its Army heavy lift capability. The CH-47F will allow the ROK to conduct missions in support of bilateral operational plans which include, but are not limited to, medical evacuation, search and rescue, parachute drops, and disaster relief. The ROK will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractor will be Boeing, Ridley Park, PA. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of any additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives to ROK.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 22-66

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The CH-47F Chinook Cargo Helicopter is a medium lift aircraft which includes two T55-GA-714A Engines and an advanced cockpit that features five multi-function displays, four-axis coupled flight director, digital map, and Dual Embedded Global Positioning System/Inertial Navigation System (GPS/INS) (EGI).

a. The AN/APR-39 Radar Warning System is a lightweight radar receiver(s) for aircraft applications that provide warning of radar-detected threats to allow appropriate evasive maneuvers and deployment of countermeasures. The system has the capability of detecting all pulse radars normally associated with hostile surface-to-air missiles, airborne intercepts, and anti-aircraft weapon systems.

b. The AN/AAR-57 Common Missile Warning System (CMWS) is an integrated infrared (IR) countermeasures suite utilizing five ultraviolet (UV) sensors to display accurate threat location and dispense decoys/countermeasures either automatically or under pilot/crew control to defeat incoming missile threats.

c. The AN/ARC-220 HF Airborne Communications system provides embedded Automatic Link Establishment (ALE), serial tone data modem, text messaging and GPS position reporting functions.

d. The AN/APX-123A, Identification Friend or Foe (IFF) Transponder, is a space diversity transponder and is installed on various military platforms. It provides identification, altitude, and surveillance reporting in

response to interrogations from airborne, ground-based and/or surface interrogators.

e. The AN/ARN-147 combines all VHF Omni Ranging/Instrument Landing System (VOR/ILS) functions into one compact, lightweight, VHF navigation receiver.

f. The AN/ARN-153 is an airborne receiver-transmitter component of the Tactical Airborne Navigation (TACAN) avionics system. The AN/ARN-153(V) supports four modes of operation modes; receive, transmit, air-to-air receive, air-to-air transmit-receive.

g. The AN/APN-209 is a pulse type, absolute (radar) altimeter that provides an accurate indication of aircraft altitude over all types or terrain surfaces such as foliage, deep snow, water, and land.

2. The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

3. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures or equivalent systems which might reduce system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

4. A determination has been made that the Republic of Korea can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

5. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the Republic of Korea.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Washington, DC.

Hon. ROBERT MENENDEZ,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 22-71, concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Poland for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$3.75 billion. We will issue a news release to notify the public of

this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Sincerely,

JAMES A. HURSCH,
Director.

Enclosures.

Transmittal No. 22-71

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Republic of Poland.

(ii) Total Estimated Value: Major Defense Equipment* \$3.25 billion.

Other \$0.50 billion.

Total \$3.75 billion.

Funding Source: National Funds and Foreign Military Financing (FMF).

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

One hundred sixteen (116) M1A1 Abrams Main Battle Tanks.

Twelve (12) M88A2 HERCULES Combat Recovery Vehicles.

Eight (8) M1110 Joint Assault Bridges.

Six (6) M577A3 Command Vehicles.

Twenty-six (26) M1152A1 High Mobility Multi-purpose Wheeled Vehicles (HMMWVs).

Twenty-six (26) M1279A1 Joint Light Tactical Vehicles (JLTV).

One hundred sixteen (116) M2 .50 Caliber Machine Guns.

Two hundred thirty-two (232) M240 7.62mm Machine Guns.

Six (6) AGT1500 Gas Turbine Engines.

Thirty thousand nine hundred twenty-eight (30,928) 120mm M865 Target Practice; Cone Stabilized, Discarding Sabot—Tracer (TPCSDS-T) Cartridges.

Twenty thousand eight hundred twenty-three (20,823) 120mm M1002 Target Practice Multipurpose Tracer (TPMP-T) Projectiles.

Sixty thousand (60,000) 120mm M829A4 Armor Piercing, Fin Stabilized, Discarding Sabot-Tracer (APFSDS-T) Cartridges.

Two thousand (2,000) 120mm M829A3 Armor Piercing, Fin Stabilized, Discarding Sabot-Tracer (APFSDS-T) Cartridges.

Fifty thousand (50,000) 120mm M829A2 Armor Piercing, Fin Stabilized, Discarding Sabot-Tracer (APFSDS-T) Cartridges.

Ten thousand (10,000) 120mm M830A1 High Explosive Anti-Tank (HEAT) TP-T Cartridges.

Sixty thousand (60,000) 120mm M908 High Explosive Obstacle Reduction-Tracer (HE-OR-T) Cartridges.

Seventy thousand (70,000) 120mm M1147 High Explosive Advanced Multipurpose Round Cartridges.

Non-MDE: Also included are Forward Repair Systems; Next Generation (NG) Shop Equipment Maintenance Contact (SECM) shelters; communications equipment; GPS receivers; ammunition; Spare and Repair Parts; Special Tools and Test Equipment (STTE); technical manuals and publications; new equipment training; U.S. Government and contractor technical engineering, logistics, and personnel services; and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Army (PL-B-UEC, PL-B-UED, PL-B-UEE).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: PL-B-UDT.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc.: Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: December 6, 2022.

* As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Poland—M1A1 Abrams Main Battle Tanks

The Government of Poland has requested to buy one hundred sixteen (116) M1A1

Abrams Main Battle Tanks; twelve (12) M88A2 HERCULES Combat Recovery Vehicles; eight (8) M1110 Joint Assault Bridges; six (6) M577A3 Command Vehicles; twenty-six (26) M1152A1 High Mobility Multi-purpose Wheeled Vehicles (HMMWV); twenty-six (26) M1279A1 Joint Light Tactical Vehicles (JLTV); one hundred sixteen (116) M2 .50 caliber machine guns; two hundred thirty-two (232) M240 7.62mm machine guns; six (6) AGT1500 gas turbine engines; thirty thousand nine hundred twenty-eight (30,928) 120mm M865 Target Practice, Cone Stabilized, Discarding Sabot—Tracer (TPCSDS-T) cartridges; twenty thousand eight hundred twenty-three (20,823) 120mm M1002 Target Practice Multipurpose Tracer (TPMP-T) projectiles; sixty thousand (60,000) 120mm M829A4 Armor Piercing, Fin Stabilized, Discarding Sabot-Tracer (APFSDS-T) cartridges; two thousand (2,000) 120mm M829A3 Armor Piercing, Fin Stabilized, Discarding Sabot-Tracer (APFSDS-T) cartridges; fifty thousand (50,000) 120mm M829A2 Armor Piercing, Fin Stabilized, Discarding Sabot-Tracer (APFSDS-T) Cartridges; ten thousand (10,000) 120mm M830A1 High Explosive Anti-Tank (HEAT) TP-T cartridges; sixty thousand (60,000) 120mm M908 High Explosive Obstacle Reduction-Tracer (HE-OR-T) cartridges; and seventy thousand (70,000) 120mm M1147 High Explosive Advanced Multipurpose Round cartridges. Also included are Forward Repair Systems; Next Generation (NG) Shop Equipment Maintenance Contact (SECM) shelters; communications equipment; GPS receivers; ammunition; Spare and Repair Parts; Special Tools and Test Equipment (STTE); technical manuals and publications; new equipment training; U.S. Government and contractor technical engineering, logistics, and personnel services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The total estimated program cost is \$3.75 billion.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy goals and national security objectives of the United States by improving the security of a NATO Ally that is a force for political stability and economic progress in Europe.

The proposed sale will improve Poland's capability to meet current and future threats by providing a credible force that is capable of deterring adversaries and participating in NATO operations. Poland will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractor(s) will be AAR, Wood Dale, IL; Allison Transmissions, Birmingham, AL; Anniston Army Depot, Anniston, AL; BAE Systems, Sterling Heights, MI; General Dynamics Land Systems (GDLS), Sterling Heights, MI; Honeywell, Phoenix, AZ; L3Harris, Melbourne, FL; Leonardo DRS, West Plains, MO; Lockheed Martin, Bethesda, MD; Palomar, Rancho Santa Margarita, CA; Pearson Engineering, Phoenix, AZ; and US Ordnance, McCarran, NV. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require temporary duty travel of three to five U.S. Government and contractor representatives to Poland for a duration of up to five years to support equipment fielding and training.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 22-71

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. M1A1 Abrams Main Battle Tank: The M1A1 Abrams is a first-generation American main battle tank, produced by General Dynamics Land Systems (GDLS) and named for General Creighton Abrams. M1A1 Abrams tank components are as follows:

a. Fire Enhancement Program (FEP): The FEP is the USMC M1A1 tank equivalent to the US Army domestic 2nd GEN FLIR. The main difference between the two is in the switch-ology, with the FEP having four (4) Search/Stare options as opposed to the six (6) available on the 2nd GEN FLIR. The FEP provides lethality upgrades to increase the M1A1 tank crew's ability to detect, recognize, and identify targets. It hosts a second-generation thermal sight (Abrams Integrated Display and Targeting System-AIDATS), a North Finding Module/Far Target Location capability displayed in sight (providing up to 50x digital magnification), and Embedded diagnostics to help troubleshoot the system. The FEP increases all-weather engagement ranges, crew situational awareness and target location accuracy.

b. Inertial Reference Unit (IRU) 9181E: The IRU is an inertial navigation system that provides accurate vehicle heading, attitude, position, elevation and navigation information to the host vehicle prime system and operators, both stationary and when moving under all operating conditions.

The Inertial Reference Unit (IRU) can be configured as a navigator (NavPAC) or as a pointing device (North Finding Module, NFM). In either configuration, the IRU contains a GPS receiver that provides vehicle location and velocities as well as satellite tracking status. These GPS observations are used by the IRU's Kalman filter to improve and enhance its performance. The GPS unit is a Ground-Based GPS Receiver Application Module (GB-GRAM) provided by Rockwell-Collins. The Miniature PLGR Engine-SAASM (MPE-S), when keyed, provides the Precise Positioning System (PPS) GPS data inputs to the system. The system is a Selective Availability/Anti-Spoofing Module (SAASM) based PPS GPS. The SAASM encapsulates all classified data and signal processing into one tamper-proof module. The SAASM provides jamming and spoofing protection for US and allied forces operating in hostile environments.

c. 120mm Main Gun (Cannon) & M256 Gun Barrel: The Abrams 120mm main gun system is composed of a 120 millimeter (mm) smoothbore gun (cannon) also referred to as the M256 gun barrel; armor-piercing, fin stabilized, discarded sabot (APFSDS) and other warheads; and combustible cartridge case ammunition.

d. AGT-1500 Gas Turbine Propulsion System: The use of AGT-1500 gas turbine propulsion system in the M1A1 is a unique application of armored vehicle power pack technology.

e. Stabilized Commander's Weapon Station—(SCWS): The SCWS provides day/night remote operation of the stabilized Commander's machine gun in closed hatch mode while enhancing Situational Awareness (provides CITV-like capability to the Tank Commander Lethality). The SCWS uses a Remote Thermal Sight (RTS) and the Abrams Integrated Display and Targeting System (AIDATS) color display to generate motorized azimuth and elevation variables.

Abrams Integrated Display and Targeting System (AIDATS) operates in conjunction with the Tank Commander Single Handle and slew-to-cue capabilities to maximize accuracy, range, and lethality on the battlefield while decreasing enemy engagement time by half. The AIDATS provides an upgraded thermal and day sight on the SCWS via a high-definition camera and permanently mounted color display.

f. Driver Vision Enhancer—Abrams (DVE-A) AN/VAS-5 and Rear View Sensor System (RVSS): The AN/VAS-5 Driver Vision Enhancer—Abrams (DVE-A) and Rear View Sensor System (RVSS) are thermal imaging systems developed for use while driving combat vehicles and tactical wheeled vehicles. The DVE-A provides night vision capability for the Abrams tank driver. RVSS provides a rear-view camera for the Abrams tank.

DVE-A and RVSS allow for tactical vehicle movement in support of operational missions in all environmental conditions (day/night and all weather) and provides enhanced driving capability during limited visibility conditions (darkness, smoke, dust, fog, etc.).

g. Global Positioning System (GPS) AN/PSN-13 Defense Advanced GPS Receiver (DAGR): Global Positioning System (GPS) capability is currently provided to Abrams tanks using the DAGR. The DAGR is a handheld GPS receiver, which utilizes Selective Availability Anti-Spoofing Module (SAASM) security. It is used for the Abrams tank, the M88A2 HERCULES Recovery Vehicle and the Joint Assault Bridge.

h. Handheld Communication Radio AN/PRC-158: The AN/PRC-158 is a Very High Frequency/Ultra High Frequency (VHF/UHF) multiband multi-channel (dual channel) radio. It is a portable, compact, tactical software-defined combat-net radio manufactured by L3/Harris Corporation. The AN/PRC-158 includes Type 1 encryption and a Selective Availability Anti-Spoofing Module (SAASM) Global Positioning System (GPS) receiver.

i. Battle Management System (BMS): The BMS for the Poland M1A1 tank will consist of a Data Distribution Unit—Expandable (DDUX), a transceiver, and commercial software called Sitaware. It equips soldiers with secure data encryption and advanced logistics. It includes an intuitive interface with features like touch-to-zoom maps and drag-and-drop icons.

j. AN/PVS-14, Night Vision Goggles: The AN/PVS-14 Night Vision Goggle (NVG) is a lightweight, head-mounted self-contained night vision system. It is used in starlight and moonlight by individual soldiers for walking, driving vehicles, weapon firing, short-range surveillance, and such manual tasks as map reading, vehicle maintenance and administering medical aid. Each NVG consists of an objective lens assembly, image intensifier tube assembly and two eyepiece assemblies integrated into a housing. The housing is affixed to a head mount, which is held by head straps to a user's head. The assembly incorporates an infrared (IR) emitting light source, which provides illumination, when required, for close-up viewing. Eyepiece diopter adjustment is provided so the device may be worn without corrective lens.

2. M88A2 HERCULES Recovery Vehicle: The primary role of the M88A2 Heavy Equipment Recovery Combat Utility Lifting Extraction System (HERCULES) Combat Recovery Vehicle is recovery of the Abrams M1 Main Battle Tank. The 70-ton M88A2 Recovery Combat Vehicle is standard equipment to de-process, recover, and sustain the Abrams M1 Tank. The vehicle's role is to extricate combat vehicles that have become bogged down or entangled; and to repair or replace damaged parts in fighting vehicles while under fire. The M88A2 main winch is capable of 70-ton single line recovery; and a 140-ton 2:1 recovery when used with a 140-ton pulley. The A-frame boom of the M88A2 can lift 35 tons when used in conjunction with the spade down. The spade can be used for light earth moving and to anchor the vehicle when using the main winch. The M88A2 employs an Auxiliary Power Unit (APU) to provide auxiliary electrical and hydraulic power when the main engine is not in operation,

the APU can also be used to slave start other vehicles.

a. AVDS-1790-8CR Engine Propulsion System is a unique modification to the standard piston engine family in the M60 series and the base M88A1.

b. Driver's Vision Enhancer (DVE-CV M88) is an un-cooled thermal imaging system developed for use while driving Combat Vehicles (CVs) and Tactical Wheeled Vehicles (TWVs). It allows for tactical vehicle movement in support of operational missions in all environmental conditions (day/night and all weather) and provides enhanced driving capability during limited visibility conditions (darkness, smoke, dust, fog, etc.). The DVE provides night vision targeting capabilities for armored vehicles and long-range night vision reconnaissance capability to the warfighter.

c. Handheld Communication Radio AN/PRC-158 is a multiband handheld radio. It is a portable, compact, tactical software-defined combat-net radio manufactured by L3/Harris Corporation.

3. M1110 Joint Assault Bridge: The M1110 Joint Assault Bridge (JAB) is a fully tracked armor engineer vehicle specifically designed to replace the M48/M60 AVLB, M104 Wolverine HAB and provide assault bridging capabilities to armored forces. The JAB System consists of an M1A1 Abrams chassis (with A2 heavy suspension) and a hydraulic bridge launch mechanism that will launch and retrieve the Heavy Assault Scissor Bridge MLC-115 Normal and MLC-124 Caution.

4. Joint Light Tactical Vehicles (JLTV): The Joint Light Tactical Vehicle (JLTV) program is a light tactical vehicle designed to replace the U.S. Military's aging High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle fleet. It was designed to close the existing gap in payload, performance, and protection to our adversaries during multi-domain operations. It has been an operationally optimal choice for the light tactical vehicle mission spectrum anywhere in the world. All JLTV mission variants include a strong balance of protection, maneuverability, speed, reliability, and combat support/combat service support capability that far surpasses any similar vehicle developed in its weight class today.

a. The JLTV is designed to be a system of system. System of systems is a "set or arrangement of systems that results when independent and useful systems are integrated into a larger system that delivers unique capabilities. The Joint Light Tactical Vehicle allows material and equipment from authorized contractors or industrial facilities used by U.S. forces in tactical operations and managed by other Program Offices that may have considered a type of classification. Other than its classified armor and ballistic protection, the JLTV is considered an unclassified tactical system. When adding integration C4ISR systems (installed or mounted), electronic countermeasures jamming devices, navigation systems or battle management systems to the JLTV, these integrated or installed system will increase the over security classification to the vehicle.

b. The JLTV's A/B Armor protection technical and test data of armor coupon, ballistic hull exploitation, Behind Armor Debris (BAD) and Full Up System Level (FUSL) Live Fire test data and protection levels to include Under Body (UB) blast, Under Wheel (UW) blast, Under Body (UB) IED, side attack (SA) IED, direct fire, and artillery enhancements are all classified technical information. The JLTV has inherent armor built into the base vehicle. It is what the US Government (USG) calls A-Kit armor. This A-Kit Inherent armor provides both opaque and transparent armor solutions to provide a 360-

degree azimuthal (i.e., all around) to include an elevated fire level of protection from a spectrum of kinetic energy/small arms fire threats with survivability enhancements to include Automatic Fire Extinguishing Protection (AFES) and structural rollover protection of 150% of the vehicle Ground Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR). The B-kit includes: 1) a combined underbody deflector plate and Energy Absorbent (EA) seat mechanisms to mitigate occupant incapacity (per Annex Q) for both anti-tank land mine blast and Improvised Explosive Device (IED) blast and fragmentation kill mechanisms, 2) a design that provides a higher level protection against significantly larger Under Wheel (UW) blast threats that also leverages vehicle frontal and rear tear-away structural design lessons learned from OEF and OIF, 3) a direct fire B-kit that adds on to the Inherent armor/A-Kit to defeat a higher level all-around direct fire threat, side attack IED attack blast and fragmentation kill mechanisms, with additional roof armor for top attack threats that include direct fire and artillery enhancements.

c. C4ISR systems (installed or mounted), electronic countermeasures jamming devices, navigation systems or battle management systems that are integrated or installed system in the JLTV will follow the same security guidelines based on their program security classification guide.

5. The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

6. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures that might reduce weapon system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

7. A determination has been made that Poland will provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

8. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the Republic of Poland.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Washington, DC.

Hon. ROBERT MENENDEZ,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 22-55, concerning the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States (TECRO) for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$330 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

JAMES A. HURSCH,
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 22-55

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States (TECRO).

(ii) Total Estimated Value: Major Defense Equipment* \$0 million. Other \$330 million. Total \$330 million.

Funding Source: National Funds.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE): None.

Non-MDE: Included is the expansion of the Cooperative Logistics Supply Support Arrangement for stock replenishment supply of standard spare parts, consumables, and accessories, and repair and replacement support for the F-16, C-130, Indigenous Defense Fighter (IDF), and all other aircraft and systems or subsystems of U.S. origin, as well as other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Air Force (TW-D-KDV).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: TW-D-KDT, TW-D-KDR, TW-D-KDS

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None known at this time.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: None.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: December 6, 2022.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States—Aircraft Standard Spare Parts

The Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States (TECRO) has requested to buy the expansion of the Cooperative Logistics Supply Support Arrangement for stock replenishment supply of standard spare parts, consumables, and accessories, and repair and replacement support for the F-16, C-130, Indigenous Defense Fighter (IDF), and all other aircraft and systems or subsystems of U.S. origin, as well as other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost is \$330 million.

This proposed sale is consistent with U.S. law and policy as expressed in Public Law 96-8.

This proposed sale serves U.S. national, economic, and security interests by supporting the recipient's continuing efforts to maintain a credible defensive capability. The proposed sale will help improve the security

of the recipient and assist in maintaining political stability, military balance, and economic progress in the region.

The proposed sale will contribute to the sustainment of the recipient's aerial fleet, enhancing its ability to meet current and future threats while providing defensive and transport capabilities critical to regional security. The proposed sale will contribute to the recipient's goal of maintaining its military capability while further enhancing interoperability with the United States and other allies. The recipient will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment and support into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

There are no principal contractors involved with this potential sale. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the permanent assignment of any U.S. Government or contractor representatives to recipient.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Washington, DC.

Hon. ROBERT MENENDEZ,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 22-56, concerning the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States (TECRO) for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$98 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

JAMES A. HURSCH,
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 22-56

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States (TECRO).

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment* \$0 million.

Other \$98 million.

Total \$98 million.

Funding Source: National Funds

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

None.

Non-MDE: Included is an expansion of the Cooperative Logistics Supply Support Arrangement for stock replenishment supply of non-standard spare parts, consumables, and accessories, and repair and replacement support for the F-16, C-130, Indigenous Defense Fighter (IDF), and all other aircraft and systems or subsystems of U.S. origin, as well as other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Air Force (TW-D-RAQ).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: TW-D-RAP.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None known at this time.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: None.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: December 6, 2022.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States—Aircraft Non-Standard Spare Parts

The Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States (TECRO) has requested to buy an expansion of the Cooperative Logistics Supply Support Arrangement for stock replenishment supply of non-standard spare parts, consumables, and accessories, and repair and replacement support for the F-16, C-130, Indigenous Defense Fighter (IDF), and all other aircraft and systems or subsystems of U.S. origin, as well as other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost is \$98 million.

This proposed sale is consistent with U.S. law and policy as expressed in Public Law 96-8.

This proposed sale serves U.S. national, economic, and security interests by supporting the recipient's continuing efforts to maintain a credible defensive capability. The proposed sale will help improve the security of the recipient and assist in maintaining political stability, military balance, and economic progress in the region.

The proposed sale will contribute to the sustainment of the recipient's aerial fleet, enhancing its ability to meet current and future threats while providing defensive and transport capabilities critical to regional security. The proposed sale will contribute to the recipient's goal of maintaining its military capability while further enhancing interoperability with the United States and other allies. The recipient will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment and support into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

There are no principal contractors involved with this potential sale. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the permanent assignment of any U.S. Government or contractor representatives to recipient.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF CONSUMER REPORTS ADVOCACY

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Madam President, today I rise to congratulate Consumer Reports on 50 years of advocacy in Washington, DC.

In 1936, scientists and researchers established a union of consumers to test products and give evidence-based recommendations through what was to become the iconic publication Consumer Reports. In 1972, the organization saw an opportunity to do even more for consumers and for the country at large by sharing data and insights with policymakers and making policy recommendations in support of consumer safety, fairness, and transparency in the marketplace.

Fifty years ago, a small team was established in Washington, DC, that has been working with Senators on both sides of the aisle, with our colleagues in the House of Representatives, and with staff at Federal Agencies such as the Consumer Product Safety Commission, Department of Energy, Environmental Protection Agency, Federal Trade Commission, Federal Communications Commission, United States Department of Agriculture, and the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau—which Consumer Reports played a major role in helping establish in 2010.

For the past five decades, Consumer Reports has ensured that we in government hear the voices of consumers, understand their needs in the marketplace, and shape the rules and safeguards that consumers deserve.

Consumer Reports has partnered with me and others to take actions that not only help people save their hard-earned money, but also save lives. Products are safer, our standards are higher, and consumer protections have endured, thanks to the extraordinary work of this organization.

On the 50th anniversary of Consumer Reports establishing its first team of advocates in Washington, DC, I congratulate and commend Consumer Reports president and CEO Marta L. Tellado, along with the past and present staff and board of directors, all of whom have dedicated their talents and resources to creating a fair, safe, and just marketplace for all of us.

RECOGNIZING THE LEGACY OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE IN IDAHO

Mr. RISCH. Madam President, today, I join my fellow members of the Idaho congressional delegation, Senator MIKE CRAPO and Representatives MIKE SIMPSON and RUSS FULCHER, in honoring the fight that so many waged for women's

suffrage by recognizing Idaho's role in securing the vote for women in Idaho 24 years before the passage of national women's suffrage legislation and by acknowledging the installation of the Idaho Women's Suffrage Commemorative Sculpture on Idaho's capitol grounds.

Notably, 126 years ago, on December 11, 1896, the Idaho State Supreme Court ruled in favor of the women's suffrage cause when it unanimously upheld the Idaho Equal Suffrage Amendment. According to historic Idaho publications, Idaho became the fourth State in the Union to enfranchise women with the right to vote and the first to do so via a State constitutional amendment. Remarkably, Idaho cemented the value and importance of women in the Gem State through a highly visible action prior to the Equal Suffrage Amendment—the adoption of the Idaho state seal—designed by a young woman named Emma Edwards. According to the Journal of the State senate of the Idaho Legislature, on March 14, 1891, the first Idaho State Legislature and Governor Norman B. Willey approved, for official use, Edwards' rendering of the Idaho State Seal—the only woman-designed State seal in the country. Idaho's all-male legislature approved Edwards' design, thus enshrining the importance of women in Idaho's past, present, and future and further validating the important role art continues to have in commemorating significant historical moments in time.

Edwards' design reflects Idaho's unlimited potential, and her depiction implies that women represent an equal half of that potential. Edwards assigned women's influence as symbolic of the ideals of justice and liberty. A woman's placement within the State seal suggests that women are integral to the protection of those ideals in Idaho. The inclusion of women in relation to Idaho's strongest and most prominent 1890s-era industries, mining, timber, and agriculture, position women not only as recipients of Idaho's bounties, but also as essential for the successful stewardship of these valuable resources.

Inspired in part by the Idaho State seal and the long-fought efforts of Idaho suffragists to enfranchise women of the Gem State and to serve as leaders in the fight to secure the vote for women nationally, the Idaho State Historical Society, in partnership with the Idaho Commission on the Arts and the Foundation for Idaho History, commissioned local sculptor Irene Deely to develop the Idaho Women's Suffrage Commemorative Sculpture. This sculpture, privately funded by the Idaho State Historical Society and the Foundation for Idaho History, embodies the spirit and legacy of the women's suffrage movement, universally represents Idaho women through time, and pays tribute to the Idaho Women 100 initiative. The sculpture's nameless woman walks metaphorically in the footsteps of those who came before her

and then hands off her shoe to the future generations who will come after her. Deely noted, "Fourteen unique styles of shoes spanning ten decades represent women through history, with a single shoe being handed off for subsequent generations to fill." The 14 shoes include a pair of contemporary moccasins made by Donzia, traditional Shoshone Bannock artisans, to represent the women of Idaho's five federally recognized Tribes. Variations of boots represent women's role in Idaho's agriculture and ranching industries and the military.

On December 12, 2022, the Idaho State Historical Society will proudly unveil the Idaho Women's Suffrage Commemorative Sculpture that celebrates the story of Idaho women past, present, and future and their impacts in the Gem State. This new symbol of the strength and significance of Idaho women will be the only female figure featured on the exterior State capitol grounds. The sculpture's placement on the grounds of the Idaho State Capitol is a statement of the importance of women to our State, especially in reference to their place in making decisions that impact us all. We commend all those involved in this important project that will serve as one more opportunity to commemorate several moments in time that speak to women's suffrage history and the resiliency, perseverance, and determination of many in the fight for a singular, focused goal.

TRIBUTE TO DOLLY PARTON

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam President, on November 5, the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame honored Dolly Parton as part of their 2022 class of inductees. Anyone familiar with Dolly's path to official "rock star" status will remember that, when she discovered the Rock Hall was considering her for a nomination, she declined. She told them she felt she hadn't earned the right to say yes.

Never has such universal outrage sprung from such universal admiration. Country fans had no time for humility. Rock fans weren't having it either—although, to be fair, humility and rock 'n' roll go together like oil and water. Even people who aren't fans of Dolly's music said that surely she was worthy of any honor bestowed by an organization whose mission is to "engage, teach, and inspire through the power of rock & roll."

By my estimation, this may have been the first time in history that a debate over a nominee to the Rock Hall has not devolved into a debate over what rock and roll is and who should and should not attempt to create it. I will not attempt to define it here today, but suffice it to say that, in six decades and over the course of more than 50 studio albums and 3,000 songs, Dolly discovered the genre's secrets and mastered them all.

Twenty years ago, Dolly famously mused, "If somebody said, 'You're

going to have to do one or the other. You're going to have to give up your music or you're going to go back to being poor,' I would go poor, totally broke, and start over and do my music. That's how much I love it."

On behalf of all Tennesseans, I thank you, Dolly, for giving so much of yourself to us. The world is a better and richer place because of your music, and we love you for it.

TRIBUTE TO GUNNERY SERGEANT MARTIN ALEMAN

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam President, December is always a time of transitions here on Capitol Hill, and it is time for Team Blackburn to recognize the transition of our defense fellow, GySgt Martin Aleman, away from the Senate and toward a bright future rising in the ranks of the Marine Corps.

On the Armed Services Committee, we spend a great deal of time considering how the decisions we make in this building will affect budgets and workload and our overall national security; but paramount to me is the effect it will have on servicemembers and their families at home and abroad.

Since day one of his fellowship, Martin has been a bottomless well of information about what it is like to actually serve in the military. His stories from his service—sometimes entertaining, sometimes sobering—helped us remember that when all is said and done, each line item in a bill, dollar authorized, and penny spent will change the lives of the brave men and women who put on the uniform.

Martin, we will miss you, but I am sure Casandra is more than ready to reclaim the time our hectic schedule stole from you this past year. I wish you the best of luck as you take the next step in your already impressive career.

TRIBUTE TO MASTER SERGEANT JUSTIN KRONENBERG

Mr. CRAMER. Madam President, I would like to recognize and thank Justin Kronenberg, my 2022 Department of Defense legislative fellow, for all of his hard work and dedication to my office. He is an active duty master sergeant in the U.S. Marine Corps with almost two decades of service. The wealth of knowledge and professionalism he brought have been incredibly valuable.

Throughout the year, Justin's expertise supported me in my role as a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee and particularly as the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Seapower. He is a skilled communicator, which has been instrumental in distilling and explaining many of the complex policy matters before the committee. North Dakota had the privilege of hosting Justin for a week as he toured our military facilities, seeing firsthand the great work being done in Grand Forks, Minot, and Fargo. North Dakota and my office are better off thanks to Justin's service.

I would also like to thank Justin's family for the shared sacrifice and service they give this Nation. I wish Justin all the best at his next assignment and in all his future endeavors. Semper Fi.

TRIBUTE TO SRDJAN SIMUNOVIC

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam President, this month, Team Blackburn is saying goodbye to Srdjan Simunovic, who has spent 2 years with us as part of a fellowship program between my office and the Oak Ridge National Laboratory, which is just outside of Knoxville, TN.

Most staff here on Capitol Hill dabble in politics. Even our most dedicated policy staff tend to have ambitions that extend beyond their chosen portfolio, but the position of Oak Ridge fellow is special in that it attracts people whose expertise transcends politics.

It has been such a pleasure working with Srdjan over the past 2 years and watching him open my team's eyes to the truly marvelous things Tennesseans are doing at Oak Ridge. We will miss him tremendously, but I know his wife Marina and son Thomas will be grateful to have him home full time.

Srdjan, thank you for giving 2 years of your life to Team Blackburn. We wish you all the best with what comes next.

TRIBUTE TO STEPHEN BOYD

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Madam President, I want to honor a great public servant and Alabamian, my first chief of staff, Stephen Boyd. After nearly two decades of public service, we recently said goodbye to this integral part of our team. When you run for Congress, you learn that people are quick to give you advice—especially when you have had a lifelong career outside of politics. One tip I heard over and over was "hire a good chief of staff."

I assembled a lot of teams as a coach. I could easily tell you what makes a "good" offensive coordinator or a "good" defensive coordinator. But when I thought about what would make a "good" chief of staff, I decided I needed someone with three main qualifications: one, someone who knew the Federal Government; two, someone who knew Alabama; and three, someone who would lead with integrity. There were a lot of people who fit the first two qualifications, but the third qualification, integrity, was the most important to me. I was looking for someone who didn't just have the knowledge or skills required to oversee a Senate office and advise a Senator who was new to politics. I was looking for someone who wanted to do the right thing for the people we represent, someone who puts the service of others first. And that someone was Stephen Boyd.

To simply say Stephen was born to serve and born to lead would be accu-

rate. Stephen's grandfathers and father served in the military, and his family is dedicated to their community—but it would not tell the full picture. Stephen has purposefully led a life dedicated to constant learning so that he could be a better servant of others. A native of Birmingham, Stephen received his undergraduate degree from the University of Alabama. He used his God-given talents throughout his time in college to lead in many roles, including as president of university programs. Just last year, Stephen was awarded the University's Bert Bank Distinguished Service and Achievement Award, one of school's highest alumni honors. He went on to earn a law degree at Alabama, and upon graduation, Stephen felt a calling to serve—and headed to Washington, DC, to work for then-Senator Jeff Sessions from Alabama. During his time in Senator Sessions' office, Stephen held positions of increasing responsibility and served at times in policy and communications roles.

He quickly earned a reputation for being able to digest complex policy details and tell the story of the office's work in a way that resonated with Alabamians back home. This is where Stephen began to fully understand the responsibility that all of our offices have to keep our constituents informed. While Senator Sessions served on the Judiciary Committee, Stephen led the Senator's communications through some of the most crucial moments in the Senate: Supreme Court nominations and confirmations. It was also during this time that Stephen met Martha Roby. At the time, Martha was an attorney in Montgomery running for the U.S. House in an extremely competitive district. Senator Sessions asked Stephen to serve his State by going home and making sure Martha became Congresswoman Roby. Stephen, of course, agreed. He ran a campaign in what turned out to be the most expensive election in the district's history, and Martha Roby would go on to serve in the House for a decade. After helping her earn her place in Congress, Congresswoman Roby naturally asked Stephen to help build her office in DC as her chief of staff.

Again, he stepped up. It was a new challenge to start an office from scratch, but Stephen is always willing to put in the effort to find solutions. That is one of the things that stands out most about Stephen: his devotion to learning. He learns the details of institutions he works for, the Members he works for, and the constituents he works for, all in order to ensure he is consistently meeting their needs. He learned quickly how important the role of oversight is for Congress. And through all of his roles so far, he has maintained a great respect for the power of congressional oversight and what it means for the American people. In Martha Roby's office, Stephen led his team to investigate the care provided by Department of Veterans Affairs to Alabama's veterans. Under his

leadership, Stephen and I led his colleagues conducted a months-long effort to expose mismanaged care of our veterans and a scheme at some VA facilities to falsely report wait times, covering up the fact that veterans were waiting months for delayed care. The investigation resulted in top leadership changes and disciplinary action against multiple VA administrators and an audit to weed out those who were lying about the treatment of our country's veterans. That commitment to finding and exposing the truth was an invaluable quality when Stephen was asked to combine his experience on the Hill with his law degree and serve at the U.S. Department of Justice.

When President Trump tapped Senator Sessions to be his Attorney General, Stephen was appointed and confirmed by the Senate as the Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Legislative Affairs. This achievement, which very few people can claim, was the culmination of over a decade of thoughtful service and leadership—built on a deep understanding of how Congress works. In this role, Stephen expertly managed the Department of Justice's relationship with Congress through often-contentious periods. He oversaw the Department's response to countless oversight investigations, congressional and confirmation hearings, and even several congressional subpoenas.

Every Senator relies on their staffs, and I had to build one from the ground up. This was a difficult task, but I knew with Stephen Boyd at the helm, he would ensure we got the right people in the right places. A devoted Washington Nationals Fan, Stephen describes a Senate office like a baseball team. It takes everyone collectively executing their individual jobs to win the game. And Stephen made sure each member of our staff had what they need to execute their role on our team. Deliberate, decisive, and always fair, that is how our staff describes Stephen. He kept the team calm, but motivated. He never notched today's win at the expense of tomorrow's victory. There was always a new solution to consider to a problem, and tough situations tended to look better in the next morning's light.

From the very first day, Stephen instilled a culture of integrity, inspiring our team to maintain a focus on doing what is right on behalf of the people of Alabama. The only "thanks" he worried about getting was a thank you from a constituent whose life we made a little better by helping them. For these first 2 years of my term—arguably the most formative years—Stephen was at the center of every decision and every action we have taken on behalf of the State of Alabama. And one singular question was his guiding light: "Is it good for the people of Alabama?"

This was especially true when it comes to our office's work on the Senate Armed Services Committee. Ste-

phen traveled around the State, the country, and the world to see our military in action. He focused on how we can use our position on the Armed Services Committee to support the military footprint in Alabama and our men and women in uniform. Stephen pushed us to take a listen-first approach—to ask our military leaders what they need and to actually listen to those requests. Thanks to his leadership, we secured authorization of funding for a number of projects important for the future of our national defense capabilities. Some of these include: new barracks at Ft. Rucker, missile defense projects, the construction of more ships in Mobile, a new physics lab at Redstone Arsenal, and a new commercial vehicle inspection area at Maxwell Air Force Base. And we even secured the No. 1 request from our No. 1 commander in the Indo-Pacific region that had gone ignored for years: a missile defense system for Guam.

Stephen was also a great support as Huntsville readies to become Space Command's home in the next few years. He led the staffs of the Alabama congressional delegation to have a united front in supporting this transition and ensured our office maintains near-constant communication with the Huntsville community and defense industry to ensure a smooth transition. Once again, Stephen's approach to work—ask first, work diligently behind the scenes, and do what is right for the people—was an effective way to get things done. These are just a few examples of how Stephen's leadership had external success.

But what people won't see are the daily moments of impact he had on our office. Stephen was a trusted and reliable adviser. You ask a question, and he will shoot you straight, even if you don't like the answer. And for me, his trustworthiness and transparency were invaluable these past 2 years. He worked to ensure I had all the information, from all sides of the argument, in order to make a final decision. And at the end of the day, Stephen always had the people of Alabama in mind.

Stephen didn't spend the last two decades of his career trying to gain acclaim. He quietly worked in the background to help improve the lives of Alabamians. And I have no doubt he will continue with that sense of service in his next endeavors.

Our office will greatly miss his steady hand and calm leadership. But we know public service is not just a burden of time and effort borne by the servant. I also want to thank Stephen's wife, Breckie, for her constant support.

So, Stephen, thank you for your service to our office, the State of Alabama, and to our country.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO MARK GORDON

• Mr. BLUNT. Madam President, I rise today to recognize my good friend,

Mark Gordon, who will be retiring from his position as the president of the Missouri Broadcasters Association next year after almost a decade of distinguished service. Mark has been a broadcaster for over 40 years. He started his career as a copywriter and an announcer before moving on to being a newscaster and then switching to the advertising sales side of the business. Before agreeing to helm the MBA, Mark spent 10 years running television stations in Springfield, MS, my home town, which is where we first met each other.

Mark moved to Springfield to work for KY3 in 1997, shortly after I came to Congress. In a lot of ways, our professional careers have been intertwined ever since. He has been a tireless advocate for local Missouri communities and Missouri broadcast stations and has been a trusted voice on their behalf for as long as I have known him. Whether we were working together on spectrum issues, satellite television re-authorizations, or public service campaigns, Mark has always been a person I could rely on. And between seeing him back home in Missouri at one of his members' stations or on one of his numerous visits here to Washington, DC, I have always appreciated his advice and how he always worked on behalf of the communities we both serve.

I remember the meeting in my office almost 10 years ago where Mark and his predecessor, Don Hicks, let me know that Mark would be taking over the reins of the MBA. Don Hicks had served as the head of the Missouri Broadcasters for decades and left large shoes to fill. I can honestly say that Mark not only filled those shoes but also has left his own legacy on our home State and a high bar for whoever succeeds him.

Mark's proud legacy also lives on through his son Mike, who has made significant contributions in his own right to Springfield's broadcasting industry.

I wish Mark, his wife Lucy, their children Jaime and Mike, and their entire family nothing but success in this next chapter of his life. Forty years is a long time, and he has seen, and been part of, so much change in his industry. I am proud to have been able to call him my friend for the last 25 years, and I know that whatever he decides to do next he will continue to be a tremendous asset to his community and our State.●

RECOGNIZING THE HILLIARD ART MUSEUM

• Mr. CASSIDY. Madam President, I rise today to congratulate the Hilliard Art Museum on being awarded accreditation by the American Alliance of Museums. This accreditation offers an industry stamp of approval to the museum, recognizing the hard work of the Hilliard Art Museum team and the support of the Lafayette community.

The Hilliard Art Museum opened its doors in 2004. Since its beginning, Hilliard has offered immersive art education to all who visit. Students, families, and art enthusiasts come to the museum for informative collections and breathtaking galleries.

The Hilliard Art Museum was accredited by the American Alliance of Museums on November 18, 2022, after being vetted for multiple years. The accreditation process includes collections, organization, and educational assessments. With the American Alliance of Museums accreditation, Hilliard will have greater opportunities to grant funding and new opportunities to borrow art pieces from other museums and collections.

Congratulations to the Hilliard Art Museum team for this recognition of their dedication to serving the community through art education.●

TRIBUTE TO JUDITH ADAMS

● Mr. SHELBY. Madam President, today I wish to honor the retirement of Judith Adams from the Alabama State Port Authority after 28 years of impactful service. Judy has played an integral role in the growth and development of the Port of Mobile, which has been one of my greatest legislative priorities. Without Judy, the Port of Mobile would not be what it is today. I would be remiss to not formally thank her for all of her hard work.

In July of 1990, Judy was hired by John Dutton, then director of the State dock system of Alabama, to work on media relations and serve as the port's representative in legislative efforts. Four years later, Judy was named the official liaison between the Federal Government and the Alabama State Port Authority, overseeing the transfer of the Navy homeport to the port.

Following her success in that role, Judy was promoted to superintendent at Middle Bay and ran the Theodore Operations. She continued to prove herself a viable asset and climbed the ranks again in 2002 to become manager of media relations.

She was a key facilitator of multiple economic development projects, including landing APM Terminals in 2008, which has been a catalyst for skyrocketing activity at the port. She also oversaw teams that recruited Aker Solutions ASA, Berg Spiral Pipe Corporation, and the ThyssenKrupp projects to Mobile. In partnership with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Judy led community outreach efforts that resulted in a successful Record of Decision for the port's harbor deepening and widening program.

Serving the State of Alabama with such depth of knowledge, Judy's final role as the senior vice president of internal and external affairs oversaw everything she had accomplished in her wide-ranging career with the Alabama State Port Authority. With Judy's significant involvement, the Port of Mobile has become the fastest growing

gateway for containerized cargo in the United States.

Since joining the port in 1990, Judy has worked with four U.S. Senators, four Members of Alabama's First Congressional District, eight Governors, four mayors, and countless county commission, city council, and State legislative officials.

Judy has earned recognitions from GulfShipper for her outstanding leadership and commitment to excellence in international trade and transportation and the U.S. Marine Corps for her help with the 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit's "Training in an Urban Environment Exercise (TRUEX) XXXVII" conducted at Middle Bay Port.

A graduate of Louisiana State University and previous chair of the American Association of Port Authorities Public Relations Committee, Judy currently serves on the board of directors and executive committee of the National Waterways Conference, Alabama Germany Partnership's board of directors, Partners for Environmental Progress, and the Coosa-Alabama River Improvement Association.

Judy Adams helped shape a more prosperous future for the Port of Mobile and the entire State of Alabama. The decisions she made and the projects she championed will benefit our State for years to come. She leaves behind a tenacious legacy that will not be forgotten, and I will miss working with her.

I am proud to take this time to recognize her service with the Alabama State Port Authority, which will continue to reap the fruits of her labor. Her achievements and dedication to transforming the Port of Mobile have not gone unnoticed. I join Judy Adams' friends, family, and colleagues in wishing her the best of luck as she transitions into a new chapter of her life.●

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:35 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 1193) to amend title IV of the Public Health Service Act to direct the Director of the National Institutes of Health, in consultation with the Director of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, to establish a program under which the Director of the National Institutes of Health shall support or conduct research on valvular heart disease, and for other purposes.

At 3:45 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, with an amendment, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

S. 198. A bill to require the Federal Communications Commission to incorporate data on maternal health outcomes into its broadband health maps.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-5625. A communication from the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Implementing the BEACH Act of 2000: 2022 Report to Congress"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5626. A communication from the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "The EPA's Capacity to Implement Certain Provisions of the Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5627. A communication from the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "The EPA's Capacity to Implement Certain Provisions of the Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5628. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Regulatory Guide (RG) 1.250 Rev 0, 'Dedication of Commercial-Grade Digital I&C Items for Use in Nuclear Power Plants'" received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 7, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5629. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Regulatory Guide (RG) 5.89 Rev 0, 'Fitness-for-Duty Programs for Commercial Power Reactor and Category I Special Nuclear Material Licenses'" received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 16, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5630. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fitness for Duty Drug Testing Requirements" received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 16, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5631. A communication from the Administrative Assistant, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Threatened Species Status for Emperor Penguin With Section 4(d) Rule" (RIN1018-BF59) received during adjournment of the Senate on November 7, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5632. A communication from the Administrative Assistant, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Reclassification of Palo de Rosa From Endangered to Threatened With a Section 4(d) Rule" (RIN1018-BE56) received during adjournment of the Senate on November 7, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5633. A communication from the Acting Chief of the Division of Delisting and Foreign Species, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled

“Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removing the Snail Darter From the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife” (RIN1018-BF59) received during adjournment of the Senate on November 7, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5634. A communication from the Biologist of Recovery and Conservation Planning, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Revision to the Nonessential Experimental Population of the Mexican Wolf” (RIN1018-BE52) received during adjournment of the Senate on November 7, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5635. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Air Plan Approval; North Carolina; Revisions to Exclusionary Rules and Permit Exemptions” (FRL No. 10244-01-R4) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 21, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5636. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Air Plan Approval; North Carolina; Prevention of Significant Deterioration for Mecklenburg County” (FRL No. 9377-02-R4) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 21, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5637. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Air Plan Approval; Colorado; Addressing Remanded Portions of the Previously Approved Infrastructure Requirements for the 2015 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards” (FRL No. 9782-03-R8) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 21, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5638. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Air Plan Approval and Air Quality Designation; Georgia; Redesignation of the Atlanta, Georgia 2015 8-Hour Ozone Nonattainment Area to Attainment” (FRL No. 10107-02-R4) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 21, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5639. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Air Plan Approval; North Carolina; Source Testing and Monitoring” (FRL No. 10151-02-R4) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 21, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5640. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Restoring Protective Human Health Criteria in Washington” (RIN2040-AG21) (FRL No. 7235.1-02-OW) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 21, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5641. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Community Right-To-Know; Adopting 2022 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Codes for Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) Reporting” ((RIN2070-AL09) (FRL No. 9529-02-OCSP)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 21, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5642. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Air Plan Approval; Colorado; Reg 3 NSR and APEN Updates” (FRL No. 9624-02-R8) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 21, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5643. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Air Plan Approval; Mississippi; Revision of Excess Emissions Provisions” (FRL No. 9911-02-R4) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 21, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5644. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Control of Air Pollution from Aircraft Engines: Emissions Standards and Test Procedures” ((RIN2060-AU69) (FRL No. 7558-02-OAR)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 21, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5645. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Delegation of New Source Performance Standards and National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for the States of Arizona and California” (FRL No. 9400-04-R9) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 7, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5646. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Paint Stripping and Miscellaneous Surface Coating Operations at Area Sources Technology Review” ((RIN2060-AV34) (FRL No. 8339-02-OAR)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 7, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5647. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Air Plan Approval; Maryland; Clean Data Determination and Approval of Select Attainment Plan Elements for the Anne Arundel County and Baltimore County, MD Sulfur Dioxide Nonattainment Area” (FRL No. 10364-02-R3) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 7, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5648. A communication from the Senior Advisor, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 27, 2022; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5649. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “Transformed Medicaid Statistical Information System (T-MSIS) Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Data Book”; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5650. A communication from the Secretary of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “The Department of Labor’s 2021 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor”; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5651. A communication from the Director of the Regulations and Disclosure Law Division, Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Elimination of Customs Broker District Permit Fee” (RIN1515-AE43) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 1, 2022; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5652. A communication from the Director of the Regulations and Disclosure Law Division, Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Modernization of the Customs Broker Regulations” (RIN1651-AB16) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 1, 2022; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5653. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Revenue Procedure: Special Procedures for Certain Eligible Taxpayers to File a Qualified Amended Return After the Opening of an Audit” (Rev. Proc. 2022-39) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 21, 2022; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5654. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Determination Letter Program for Individually Designed Qualified and Section 403(b) Plans” (Rev. Proc. 2022-40) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 16, 2022; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5655. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13694 with respect to significant malicious cyber-enabled activities; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5656. A communication from the Senior Bureau Official, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report certifying for fiscal year 2022 that no United Nations agency or United Nations affiliated agency grants any official status, accreditation, or recognition to any organization which promotes and condones or seeks the legalization of pedophilia; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5657. A communication from the Senior Bureau Official, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a notification of intent to provide military assistance to Ukraine, including for self-defense and border security operations; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5658. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Annual Report on the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship Program"; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5659. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Case-Zablocki Act, 1 U.S.C. 112b, as amended, the report of the texts and background statements of international agreements, other than treaties (List 2022-0156-2022-0172); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5660. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel of the Division of Regulatory Services, Office of Postsecondary Education, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Institutional Eligibility Under the Higher Education Act of 1965, as Amended; Student Assistance General Provisions; Federal Perkins Loan Program; Federal Family Education Loan Program; and William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program" (RIN1840-AD53) (RIN1840-AD59) (RIN1840-AD70) (RIN1840-AD71) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 1, 2022; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5661. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel of the Division of Regulatory Services, Office of Postsecondary Education, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Priorities, Requirements, and Definitions—School-Based Mental Health Services Grant Program" received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 1, 2022; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5662. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Services, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Priorities, Requirements, and Definitions—Mental Health Service Professional Demonstration Grant Program" (RIN1810-AB67) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 1, 2022; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5663. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel of the Division of Regulatory Services, Office of Postsecondary Education, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Pell Grants for Prison Education Programs; Determining the Amount of Federal Education Assistance Funds Received by Institutions of Higher Education (90/10); Change in Ownership and Change in Control" (RIN1840-AD54) (RIN1840-AD55) (RIN1840-AD66) (RIN1840-AD69) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 1, 2022; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5664. A communication from the Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Submission of Food and Drug Administration Import Data in the Automated Commercial Environment for Veterinary Devices" (RIN0910-AH66) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 7, 2022; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5665. A communication from the Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Listing of Color Additives

Exempt From Certification; Spirulina Extract" received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 16, 2022; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5666. A communication from the Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Public Information" (RIN0910-AH69) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 1, 2022; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5667. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Fourteenth Annual Report on Delays in Approvals of Applications Related to Citizen Petitions for Stay of Agency Action for Fiscal Year 2021"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5668. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "2022 National Healthcare Quality and Disparities Report"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5669. A joint communication from the Secretary of Labor and the Director of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Corporation's Annual Report for fiscal year 2022; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. SCHATZ, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, without amendment:

S. 3381. A bill to require the Bureau of Indian Affairs to process and complete all mortgage packages associated with residential and business mortgages on Indian land by certain deadlines, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117-232).

S. 3773. A bill to authorize the leases of up to 99 years for land held in trust for the Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation (Rept. No. 117-233).

By Mr. SCHATZ, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 3789. A bill to amend the Native American Tourism and Improving Visitor Experience Act to authorize grants to Indian tribes, tribal organizations, and Native Hawaiian organizations, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117-234).

By Mr. TESTER, from the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, without amendment:

S. 3388. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve benefits administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 5188. A bill to provide consumer protections for students; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mr. CASEY, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. 5189. A bill to address applications for deposit insurance submitted by industrial banks to the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. ROMNEY:

S. 5190. A bill to end the treatment of the People's Republic of China as a developing nation; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. COONS (for himself and Mr. CARDIN):

S. 5191. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to reauthorize the SCORE program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. KING:

S. 5192. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the limitation on the credit for biomass stoves and boilers; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BOOKER:

S. 5193. A bill to enable incarcerated persons to petition a Federal court for a second look at sentences longer than 10 years, where the person is not a danger to the safety of any person or the community and has shown they are ready for reentry, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KENNEDY:

S. 5194. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to extend certain increases in payments for physicians services under the Medicare program through 2023; to the Committee on Finance.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. KING):

S. Res. 859. A resolution designating December 17, 2022, as "National Wreaths Across America Day"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. Res. 860. A resolution expressing support for the designation of the week of November 14 through November 18, 2022, as "National Family Service Learning Week"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. OSSOFF, and Mr. WARNOCK):

S. Res. 861. A resolution remembering the December 6, 2019, terrorist attack at Naval Air Station Pensacola and commemorating those who lost their lives, and those who were injured, in the line of duty; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 190

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 190, a bill to amend chapter 44 of title 18, United States Code, to require the safe storage of firearms, and for other purposes.

S. 868

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 868, a bill to

amend title II of the Social Security Act to eliminate the five-month waiting period for disability insurance benefits under such title and waive the 24-month waiting period for Medicare eligibility for individuals with Huntington's disease.

S. 1512

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the names of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) and the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1512, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to expand access to telehealth services, and for other purposes.

S. 3663

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3663, a bill to protect the safety of children on the internet.

S. 3766

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3766, a bill to increase the benefits guaranteed in connection with certain pension plans, and for other purposes.

S. 3909

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3909, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make employers of spouses of military personnel eligible for the work opportunity credit.

S. 4105

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4105, a bill to treat certain liquidations of new motor vehicle inventory as qualified liquidations of LIFO inventory for purposes of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

S. 4120

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4120, a bill to maximize discovery, and accelerate development and availability, of promising childhood cancer treatments, and for other purposes.

S. 4188

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4188, a bill to amend title 28, United States Code, to provide for a code of conduct for justices of the Supreme Court of the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 4416

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4416, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a credit against tax for charitable donations to nonprofit organizations providing education scholarships to quali-

fied elementary and secondary students.

S. 4441

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4441, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide for peer support specialists for claimants who are survivors of military sexual trauma, and for other purposes.

S. 4587

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the names of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW), and the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 4587, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Benjamin Berell Ferencz, in recognition of his service to the United States and international community during the post-World War II Nuremberg trials and lifelong advocacy for international criminal justice and rule of law.

S. 4597

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4597, a bill to allow individuals with disabilities to campaign for elected office without losing access to federally supported benefits.

S. 4709

At the request of Mr. LUJÁN, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4709, a bill to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to amend regulations to allow for certain packers to have an interest in market agencies, and for other purposes.

S. 4877

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4877, a bill to amend Public Law 91-378 to authorize activities relating to Civilian Conservation Centers, and for other purposes.

S. 4986

At the request of Mr. MARSHALL, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4986, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to remove short-barreled rifles, short-barreled shotguns, and certain other weapons from the definition of firearms for purposes of the National Firearms Act, and for other purposes.

S. 5112

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5112, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the 250th Anniversary of the United States Marine Corps, and to support programs at the Marine Corps Heritage Center.

S. 5130

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5130, a bill to amend the Camp Lejeune Justice Act of 2022 to appropriately limit attorney's fees.

S. 5135

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the names of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY) and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) were added as cosponsors of S. 5135, a bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to prohibit the Securities and Exchange Commission from requiring an issuer to disclose information relating to certain greenhouse gas emissions, and for other purposes.

S. CON. RES. 47

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 47, a concurrent resolution commending the bravery, courage, and resolve of the women and men of Iran demonstrating in more than 80 cities and risking their safety to speak out against the Iranian regime's human rights abuses.

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 47, supra.

S. RES. 472

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 472, a resolution reaffirming the partnership between the United States and the Dominican Republic and advancing opportunities to deepen diplomatic, economic, and security cooperation between the two nations.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 859—DESIGNATING DECEMBER 17, 2022, AS “NATIONAL WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA DAY”

Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. KING) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 859

Whereas, 31 years before the date of adoption of this resolution, the Wreaths Across America wreath project began with an annual tradition that occurs in December, of donating, transporting, and placing 5,000 Maine balsam fir veterans' remembrance wreaths on the graves of the fallen heroes buried at Arlington National Cemetery;

Whereas, in the 31 years preceding the date of adoption of this resolution, more than 14,400,000 wreaths have been sent to various locations, including national cemeteries and veterans' memorials in every State and overseas;

Whereas the mission of the Wreaths Across America project, to “Remember, Honor, and Teach”, is carried out in part by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies in all 50 States and overseas, including at—

- (1) Arlington National Cemetery;
- (2) veterans' cemeteries; and

(3) other memorial locations;

Whereas the Wreaths Across America project carries out a week-long veterans' parade between the States of Maine and Virginia, stopping along the way to spread a message about the importance of—

(1) remembering the fallen heroes of the United States;

(2) honoring those who serve in the Armed Forces; and

(3) teaching the next generation of children about the service and sacrifices made by our veterans and their families to preserve freedoms enjoyed by all in the United States;

Whereas, in 2021, approximately 2,400,000 veterans' remembrance wreaths were delivered to 3,137 locations across the United States;

Whereas, in December 2022, the tradition of escorting tractor-trailers filled with donated wreaths from Harrington, Maine, to Arlington National Cemetery will be continued by—

(1) the Patriot Guard Riders; and

(2) other patriotic escort units, including—

(A) motorcycle units;

(B) law enforcement units; and

(C) first responder units;

Whereas hundreds of thousands of individuals volunteer each December to help lay veterans' wreaths;

Whereas the trucking industry in the United States will continue to support the Wreaths Across America project by providing drivers, equipment, and related services to assist in the transportation of wreaths across the United States to more than 3,400 locations;

Whereas the Senate designated December 18, 2021, as "Wreaths Across America Day"; and

Whereas, on December 17, 2022, the Wreaths Across America project will continue the proud legacy of bringing veterans' wreaths to Arlington National Cemetery: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates December 17, 2022, as "National Wreaths Across America Day";

(2) honors—

(A) the Wreaths Across America project;

(B) patriotic escort units, including—

(i) motorcycle units;

(ii) law enforcement units; and

(iii) first responder units;

(C) the trucking industry in the United States; and

(D) the millions of volunteers and donors involved in the worthy tradition of the Wreaths Across America project; and

(3) recognizes—

(A) the service of veterans and members of the Armed Forces; and

(B) the sacrifices that veterans, members of the Armed Forces, their family members have made, and continue to make, for the United States, a great Nation.

SENATE RESOLUTION 860—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 14 THROUGH NOVEMBER 18, 2022, AS "NATIONAL FAMILY SERVICE LEARNING WEEK"

Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. DURBIN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 860

Whereas family service learning is a method under which children and families learn and solve problems together in a multi-generational approach with active participation in thoughtfully organized service that—

(1) is conducted in, and meets the needs of, their communities;

(2) is focused on children and families solving community issues together;

(3) requires the application of college and career readiness skills by children and relevant workforce training skills by adults; and

(4) is coordinated between the community and an elementary school, a secondary school, an institution of higher education, or a family community service program;

Whereas family service learning—

(1) is multi-generational learning that involves parents, children, caregivers, and extended family members in shared learning experiences in physical and digital environments;

(2) is integrated into and enhances the academic achievement of children or the educational components of a family service program in which families may be enrolled; and

(3) promotes skills (such as investigation, planning, and preparation), action, reflection, the demonstration of results, and sustainability;

Whereas family service learning has been shown to have positive multi-generational effects and encourages families to invest in their communities to improve economic and societal well-being;

Whereas, through family service learning, children and families have the opportunity to solve community issues and learn together, thereby enabling the development of life and career skills, such as flexibility and adaptability, initiative and self-direction, social and cross-cultural skills, productivity and accountability, and leadership and responsibility;

Whereas family service learning activities provide opportunities for families to improve essential skills, such as organization, research, planning, reading and writing, technological literacy, teamwork, and sharing;

Whereas families participating together in service are afforded quality time learning about their communities;

Whereas adults engaged in family service learning serve as positive role models for their children;

Whereas family service learning projects enable families to build substantive connections with their communities, develop a stronger sense of self-worth, experience a reduction in social isolation, and improve parenting skills;

Whereas family service learning has added benefits for English learners by helping individuals and families to—

(1) feel more connected with their communities; and

(2) practice language skills;

Whereas family service learning is particularly important for at-risk families because family service learning—

(1) provides opportunities for leadership and civic engagement; and

(2) helps build the capacity to advocate for the needs of children and families; and

Whereas the value that parents place on civic engagement and relationships within the community has been shown to transfer to children who, in turn, replicate important values, such as responsibility, empathy, and caring for others: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of the week of November 14 through November 18, 2022, as "National Family Service Learning Week" to raise public awareness about the importance of family service learning, family literacy, community service, and multi-generational learning experiences;

(2) encourages people across the United States to support family service learning and community development programs;

(3) recognizes the importance that family service learning plays in cultivating family

literacy, civic engagement, and community investment; and

(4) calls upon public, private, and nonprofit entities to support family service learning opportunities to aid in the advancement of families.

SENATE RESOLUTION 861—REMEMBERING THE DECEMBER 6, 2019, TERRORIST ATTACK AT NAVAL AIR STATION PENSACOLA AND COMMEMORATING THOSE WHO LOST THEIR LIVES, AND THOSE WHO WERE INJURED, IN THE LINE OF DUTY

Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. OSSOFF, and Mr. WARNOCK) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 861

Whereas December 6, 2022, the 3-year anniversary of the terrorist attack at Naval Air Station Pensacola (referred to in this preamble as the "terrorist attack"), is a day of commemoration for those who lost their lives, and those who were injured, during the terrorist attack, including—

(1) Ensign Joshua Kaleb Watson of Enterprise, Alabama;

(2) Petty Officer Third Class Mohammed Sameh Haitham of St. Petersburg, Florida; and

(3) Petty Officer Third Class Cameron Scott Walters of Richmond Hill, Georgia;

Whereas the 3 servicemembers who died in the terrorist attack were posthumously awarded the Purple Heart;

Whereas the terrorist who committed the terrorist attack was a Saudi Arabian foreign military student who had been radicalized and established contacts with Al Qaeda operatives prior to attending flight training at Naval Air Station Pensacola;

Whereas Naval Air Station Pensacola security forces and Escambia County, Florida, law enforcement officers took decisive action to end the terrorist attack and have rightly earned the praises and awards bestowed upon them;

Whereas 2 civilians were awarded the Department of the Navy Superior Civilian Medal for Valor for their heroic actions during the terrorist attack;

Whereas 8 individuals were awarded the Purple Heart, or the law enforcement equivalent, for injuries sustained during the terrorist attack;

Whereas 9 military personnel were awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Medal for their heroic actions during the terrorist attack;

Whereas 8 military personnel were awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal for their heroic actions during the terrorist attack;

Whereas 8 law enforcement officers were awarded the Medal of Valor for their actions taken during the terrorist attack; and

Whereas December 6, 2022, marks 3 years since the lives of 3 military personnel were tragically cut short by the egregious act of terrorism at Naval Air Station Pensacola: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) condemns the December 6, 2019, terrorist attack at Naval Air Station Pensacola (referred to in this resolution as the "terrorist attack");

(2) commemorates in sorrow the servicemembers and civilians who lost their lives, or who were injured, and the harm caused to the surrounding community, as a result of the terrorist attack;

(3) remembers Ensign Joshua Kaleb Watson, Petty Officer Third Class Mohammed Sameh Haitham, and Petty Officer Third Class Cameron Scott Walters, who were killed in the terrorist attack;

(4) expresses gratitude for the heroic actions that the civilians, uniformed personnel, and law enforcement performed during and in the aftermath of the terrorist attack;

(5) lauds the decision to give medals and awards to the law enforcement officers, uniformed servicemembers, and civilians who responded heroically on the morning of December 6, 2019; and

(6) commends the efforts undertaken by the Department of Defense to enhance security at military installations to ensure that the tragedy represented by the terrorist attack is never repeated.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 6505. Ms. HASSAN (for Mr. PETERS) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 7077, to require the United States Fire Administration to conduct on-site investigations of major fires, and for other purposes.

SA 6506. Ms. HASSAN (for Ms. SMITH (for herself and Mr. TILLIS)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 3198, to direct the Securities and Exchange Commission to revise any rules necessary to enable issuers of index-linked annuities to register on a form tailored specifically to registered index-linked annuities, and for other purposes.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 6505. Ms. HASSAN (for Mr. PETERS) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 7077, to require the United States Fire Administration to conduct on-site investigations of major fires, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Empowering the U.S. Fire Administration Act”.

SEC. 2. FIRE SAFETY INVESTIGATIONS.

The Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2201 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 38. INVESTIGATION AUTHORITIES.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a major fire, the Administrator may send incident investigators, which may include safety specialists, fire protection engineers, codes and standards experts, researchers, and fire training specialists, to the site of the fire to conduct a fire safety investigation as described in subsection (b).

“(b) INVESTIGATION REQUIRED.—A fire safety investigation conducted under this section—

“(1) shall be conducted in coordination and cooperation with appropriate Federal, State, local, Tribal, and territorial authorities, including Federal agencies that are authorized to investigate any fire; and

“(2) shall examine the previously determined cause and origin of the fire and assess broader systematic matters to include use of codes and standards, demographics, structural characteristics, smoke and fire dynamics (movement) during the event, and costs of associated injuries and deaths.

“(c) REPORT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), upon concluding any fire safety investigation under this section, the Administrator shall—

“(A) issue a public report to the appropriate Federal, State, local, Tribal, and territorial authorities on the findings of such investigation; or

“(B) collaborate with another investigating Federal, State, local, Tribal, or territorial agency on the report of that agency.

“(2) EXCEPTION.—If the Administrator, in consultation with appropriate Federal, State, local, Tribal, and territorial authorities determines that issuing a report under paragraph (1) would have a negative impact on a potential or ongoing criminal investigation, the Administrator is not required to issue such report.

“(3) CONTENTS.—Each public report issued under paragraph (1) shall include recommendations on—

“(A) any other buildings with similar characteristics that may bear similar fire risks;

“(B) improving tactical response to similar fires;

“(C) improving civilian safety practices;

“(D) assessing the costs and benefits to the community of adding fire safety features; and

“(E) how to mitigate the causes of the fire.

“(d) DISCRETIONARY AUTHORITY.—In addition to a fire safety investigation conducted pursuant to subsection (a), provided doing so would not have a negative impact on a potential or ongoing criminal investigation, the Administrator may send fire investigators to conduct a fire safety investigation at the site of any fire with unusual or remarkable context that results in losses less severe than those occurring as a result of a major fire, in coordination and cooperation with the appropriate Federal, State, local, Tribal, and territorial authorities, including Federal agencies that are authorized to investigate the fire.

“(e) CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to—

“(1) affect or otherwise diminish the authorities or the mandates vested in other Federal agencies;

“(2) grant the Administrator authority to investigate a major fire for the purpose of an enforcement action or criminal prosecution; or

“(3) require the Administrator to send investigators or issue a report for a major fire when the Administrator, in coordination and cooperation with the appropriate Federal, State, local, Tribal, and territorial authorities, determine that it may compromise a potential or ongoing criminal investigation.

“(f) MAJOR FIRE DEFINED.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘major fire’ shall have the meaning given such term under regulations to be issued by the Administrator.”.

SA 6506. Ms. HASSAN (for Ms. SMITH (for herself and Mr. TILLIS)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 3198, to direct the Securities and Exchange Commission to revise any rules necessary to enable issuers of index-linked annuities to register on a form tailored specifically to registered index-linked annuities, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Registration for Index-Linked Annuities Act”.

SEC. 2. PARITY FOR REGISTERED INDEX-LINKED ANNUITIES REGARDING REGISTRATION RULES.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) COMMISSION.—The term “Commission” means the Securities and Exchange Commission.

(2) INVESTMENT COMPANY.—The term “investment company” has the meaning given

the term in section 3 of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-3).

(3) MARKET VALUE ADJUSTMENT.—The term “market value adjustment” means, with respect to a registered index-linked annuity, after an early withdrawal or contract discontinuance—

(A) an adjustment to the value of that annuity based on calculations using a predetermined formula; or

(B) a change in interest rates (or other factor, as determined by the Commission) that apply to that annuity.

(4) PURCHASER.—The term “purchaser” means a purchaser of a registered index-linked annuity.

(5) REGISTERED INDEX-LINKED ANNUITY.—The term “registered index-linked annuity” means an annuity—

(A) that is deemed to be a security;

(B) that is registered with the Commission in accordance with section 5 of the Securities Act of 1933 (15 U.S.C. 77e);

(C) that is issued by an insurance company that is subject to the supervision of—

(i) the insurance commissioner or bank commissioner of any State; or

(ii) any agency or officer performing like functions as a commissioner described in clause (i);

(D) that is not issued by an investment company; and

(E) the returns of which—

(i) are based on the performance of a specified benchmark index or rate (or a registered exchange traded fund that seeks to track the performance of a specified benchmark index or rate); and

(ii) may be subject to a market value adjustment if amounts are withdrawn before the end of the period during which that market value adjustment applies.

(6) SECURITY.—The term “security” has the meaning given the term in section 2(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 (15 U.S.C. 77b(a)).

(b) RULES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission shall propose, and, not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission shall prepare and finalize, new or amended rules, as appropriate, to establish a new form in accordance with paragraph (2) on which an issuer of a registered index-linked annuity may register that registered index-linked annuity, subject to conditions the Commission determines appropriate, which may include requiring the issuer to take the steps described in section 240.12h-7(e) of title 17, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor regulation, with respect to the registered index-linked annuity.

(2) DESIGN OF FORM.—In developing the form required to be established under paragraph (1), the Commission shall—

(A) design the form to ensure that a purchaser using the form receives the information necessary to make knowledgeable decisions, taking into account—

(i) the availability of information;

(ii) the knowledge and sophistication of that class of purchasers;

(iii) the complexity of the registered index-linked annuity; and

(iv) any other factor the Commission determines appropriate;

(B) engage in investor testing; and

(C) incorporate the results of the testing required under subparagraph (B) in the design of the form, with the goal of ensuring that key information is conveyed in terms that a purchaser is able to understand.

(c) TREATMENT IF RULES NOT PREPARED AND FINALIZED IN A TIMELY MANNER.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—If, as of the date that is 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission has failed to prepare

and finalize the rules required under subsection (b)(1), any registered index-linked annuity may be registered on the form described in section 239.17b of title 17, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor regulation.

(2) **PREPARATION.**—A registration described in paragraph (1) shall be prepared pursuant to applicable provisions of the form described in that paragraph.

(3) **TERMINATION.**—This subsection shall terminate upon the establishment by the Commission of the form described in subsection (b).

(d) **RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Nothing in this section may be construed to—

(1) limit the authority of the Commission to—

(A) determine the information to be requested in the form described in subsection (b); or

(B) extend the eligibility for the form described in subsection (b) to a product that is similar to, but is not, a registered index-linked annuity; or

(2) preempt any State law, regulation, rule, or order.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Ms. HASSAN, Mr. President, I have two requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

The Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, December 6, 2022, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, December 6, 2022, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a closed briefing.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. BLUNT, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Jeremy Pinson, a military fellow from my office, be granted floor privileges for the remainder of the Congress.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

LETTER OF RESIGNATION

Ms. HASSAN, Madam President, I understand that the Chair has an announcement to make.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair lays before the Senate a communication regarding the resignation of Senator SASSE. Without objection, the letter will be printed in the RECORD and spread upon the Journal.

The letter follows:

U.S. SENATE,
Washington, DC, December 5, 2022.
Governor PETE RICKETTS,
Office of the Governor,
Lincoln, NE.

DEAR GOVERNOR RICKETTS: I will resign as Senator from the State of Nebraska effective January 8, 2023, at 12:00 p.m. EST. It has been a great honor to serve the people of Nebraska in the U.S. Senate these last eight years. I am confident that Governor-Elect Pillen will appoint someone who will serve Nebraskans well in Washington.

Sincerely,

BEN SASSE,
U.S. Senator.

EMPOWERING THE U.S. FIRE ADMINISTRATION ACT

Ms. HASSAN, Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 546, H.R. 7077.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 7077) to require the United States Fire Administration to conduct on-site investigations of major fires, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Ms. HASSAN, I ask unanimous consent that the Peters substitute amendment, which is at the desk, be considered and agreed to; the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed; and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 6505), in the nature of a substitute was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: In the nature of a substitute)

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Empowering the U.S. Fire Administration Act".

SEC. 2. FIRE SAFETY INVESTIGATIONS.

The Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2201 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"SEC. 38. INVESTIGATION AUTHORITIES.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a major fire, the Administrator may send incident investigators, which may include safety specialists, fire protection engineers, codes and standards experts, researchers, and fire training specialists, to the site of the fire to conduct a fire safety investigation as described in subsection (b).

"(b) INVESTIGATION REQUIRED.—A fire safety investigation conducted under this section—

"(1) shall be conducted in coordination and cooperation with appropriate Federal, State, local, Tribal, and territorial authorities, including Federal agencies that are authorized to investigate any fire; and

"(2) shall examine the previously determined cause and origin of the fire and assess broader systematic matters to include use of codes and standards, demographics, structural characteristics, smoke and fire dynamics (movement) during the event, and costs of associated injuries and deaths.

"(c) REPORT.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), upon concluding any fire safety investigation under this section, the Administrator shall—

"(A) issue a public report to the appropriate Federal, State, local, Tribal, and territorial authorities on the findings of such investigation; or

"(B) collaborate with another investigating Federal, State, local, Tribal, or territorial agency on the report of that agency.

"(2) EXCEPTION.—If the Administrator, in consultation with appropriate Federal, State, local, Tribal, and territorial authorities determines that issuing a report under paragraph (1) would have a negative impact on a potential or ongoing criminal investigation, the Administrator is not required to issue such report.

"(3) CONTENTS.—Each public report issued under paragraph (1) shall include recommendations on—

"(A) any other buildings with similar characteristics that may bear similar fire risks;

"(B) improving tactical response to similar fires;

"(C) improving civilian safety practices;

"(D) assessing the costs and benefits to the community of adding fire safety features; and

"(E) how to mitigate the causes of the fire.

"(d) DISCRETIONARY AUTHORITY.—In addition to a fire safety investigation conducted pursuant to subsection (a), provided doing so would not have a negative impact on a potential or ongoing criminal investigation, the Administrator may send fire investigators to conduct a fire safety investigation at the site of any fire with unusual or remarkable context that results in losses less severe than those occurring as a result of a major fire, in coordination and cooperation with the appropriate Federal, State, local, Tribal, and territorial authorities, including Federal agencies that are authorized to investigate the fire.

"(e) CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to—

"(1) affect or otherwise diminish the authorities or the mandates vested in other Federal agencies;

"(2) grant the Administrator authority to investigate a major fire for the purpose of an enforcement action or criminal prosecution; or

"(3) require the Administrator to send investigators or issue a report for a major fire when the Administrator, in coordination and cooperation with the appropriate Federal, State, local, Tribal, and territorial authorities, determine that it may compromise a potential or ongoing criminal investigation.

"(f) MAJOR FIRE DEFINED.—For purposes of this section, the term 'major fire' shall have the meaning given such term under regulations to be issued by the Administrator."

The amendment was ordered to be engrossed and the bill to be read a third time.

The bill was read the third time.

The bill (H.R. 7077), as amended, was passed.

REGISTRATION FOR INDEX-LINKED ANNUITIES ACT

Ms. HASSAN, Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be discharged from further consideration of S. 3198 and that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3198) to direct the Securities and Exchange Commission to revise any rules necessary to enable issuers of index-linked annuities to register on a form tailored specifically to registered index-linked annuities, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Ms. HASSAN. I ask unanimous consent that the Smith-Tillis substitute amendment, which is at the desk, be considered and agreed to; that the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed, and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 6506), in the nature of a substitute, was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: In the nature of a substitute)

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Registration for Index-Linked Annuities Act".

SEC. 2. PARITY FOR REGISTERED INDEX-LINKED ANNUITIES REGARDING REGISTRATION RULES.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) COMMISSION.—The term "Commission" means the Securities and Exchange Commission.

(2) INVESTMENT COMPANY.—The term "investment company" has the meaning given the term in section 3 of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-3).

(3) MARKET VALUE ADJUSTMENT.—The term "market value adjustment" means, with respect to a registered index-linked annuity, after an early withdrawal or contract discontinuance—

(A) an adjustment to the value of that annuity based on calculations using a predetermined formula; or

(B) a change in interest rates (or other factor, as determined by the Commission) that apply to that annuity.

(4) PURCHASER.—The term "purchaser" means a purchaser of a registered index-linked annuity.

(5) REGISTERED INDEX-LINKED ANNUITY.—The term "registered index-linked annuity" means an annuity—

(A) that is deemed to be a security;

(B) that is registered with the Commission in accordance with section 5 of the Securities Act of 1933 (15 U.S.C. 77e);

(C) that is issued by an insurance company that is subject to the supervision of—

(i) the insurance commissioner or bank commissioner of any State; or

(ii) any agency or officer performing like functions as a commissioner described in clause (i);

(D) that is not issued by an investment company; and

(E) the returns of which—

(i) are based on the performance of a specified benchmark index or rate (or a registered exchange traded fund that seeks to track the performance of a specified benchmark index or rate); and

(ii) may be subject to a market value adjustment if amounts are withdrawn before the end of the period during which that market value adjustment applies.

(6) SECURITY.—The term "security" has the meaning given the term in section 2(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 (15 U.S.C. 77b(a)).

(b) RULES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission shall propose, and, not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission shall prepare and finalize, new or amended rules, as appropriate, to establish a new form in accordance with paragraph (2) on which an issuer of a registered index-linked annuity may register that registered index-linked annuity, subject to conditions the Commission determines appropriate, which may include requiring the issuer to take the steps described in section 240.12h-7(e) of title 17, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor regulation, with respect to the registered index-linked annuity.

(2) DESIGN OF FORM.—In developing the form required to be established under paragraph (1), the Commission shall—

(A) design the form to ensure that a purchaser using the form receives the information necessary to make knowledgeable decisions, taking into account—

(i) the availability of information;

(ii) the knowledge and sophistication of that class of purchasers;

(iii) the complexity of the registered index-linked annuity; and

(iv) any other factor the Commission determines appropriate;

(B) engage in investor testing; and

(C) incorporate the results of the testing required under subparagraph (B) in the design of the form, with the goal of ensuring that key information is conveyed in terms that a purchaser is able to understand.

(c) TREATMENT IF RULES NOT PREPARED AND FINALIZED IN A TIMELY MANNER.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—If, as of the date that is 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission has failed to prepare and finalize the rules required under subsection (b)(1), any registered index-linked annuity may be registered on the form described in section 239.17b of title 17, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor regulation.

(2) PREPARATION.—A registration described in paragraph (1) shall be prepared pursuant to applicable provisions of the form described in that paragraph.

(3) TERMINATION.—This subsection shall terminate upon the establishment by the Commission of the form described in subsection (b).

(d) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section may be construed to—

(1) limit the authority of the Commission to—

(A) determine the information to be requested in the form described in subsection (b); or

(B) extend the eligibility for the form described in subsection (b) to a product that is similar to, but is not, a registered index-linked annuity; or

(2) preempt any State law, regulation, rule, or order.

The bill (S. 3198), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

IRAN HOSTAGES CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL ACT

Ms. HASSAN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be discharged and the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. 2607.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2607) to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the former hostages of the Iran Hostage Crisis of 1979–1981, highlighting their resilience throughout the unprecedented ordeal that they lived through and the national unity it produced, marking 4 decades since their 444 days in captivity, and recognizing their sacrifice to the United States.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Ms. HASSAN. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 2607) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 2607

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Iran Hostages Congressional Gold Medal Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) On January 20, 1981, United States diplomats, military personnel, and civilians were released after being held hostage for 444 days by militant student supporters of Iran's Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini in a violation of international law. The individuals were taken from the United States Embassy in Tehran, Iran, and the ordeal came to be known as the Iran Hostage Crisis.

(2) The hostages were subjected to intense physical and psychological torture throughout their captivity, such as mock executions, beatings, solitary confinement, and inhospitable living conditions.

(3) Throughout their time held, the hostages were routinely told to denounce the United States and, when they refused, they were tortured, but remained strong in their spirit.

(4) One hostage wrote "Viva la roja, blanco, y azul", which translates to "Long live the red, white, and blue", on the wall of his cell as a reminder of the values he swore to protect.

(5) The hostages showed extraordinary courage by continually engaging in acts of resistance against their captors, such as by refusing to sign condemnations of the United States, in the face of gross violations of their human rights.

(6) Many of the hostages still experience trauma as a result of the events of the crisis and deserve to have their suffering recognized.

(7) While, as of the date of enactment of this Act, 35 of the hostages are living, it is important that the people of the United States reflect on the resilience and strength of the hostages, which serve as an example to current generations.

(8) The people of the United States should—

(A) acknowledge the hostages as heroes who—

(i) experienced great tribulation; and

(ii) endured, so that the people of the United States may know the blessing of living in the United States; and

(B) strive to demonstrate the values shown by the hostages.

(9) On January 22, 1981, President Jimmy Carter met with the hostages in West Germany and stated the following: "One of the

acts in my life which has been the most moving and gratifying in meeting with and discussing the future and the past with the now liberated Americans who were held hostage in Iran for so long. I pointed out to them that, since their capture by the Iranian terrorists and their being held in this despicable act of savagery, that the American people's hearts have gone out to them and the Nation has been united as perhaps never before in history and that the prayers that have gone up from the people throughout the world to God for their safety have finally been answered."

(10) On January 28, 1981, when welcoming the hostages home, President Ronald Reagan stated the following: "You've come home to a people who for 444 days suffered the pain of your imprisonment, prayed for your safety, and most importantly, shared your determination that the spirit of free men and women is not a fit subject for barter. You've represented under great stress the highest traditions of public service. Your conduct is symbolic of the millions of professional diplomats, military personnel, and others who have rendered service to their country."

(11) During the 444 days the brave hostages were held, the rest of the United States held its breath, waiting for news of the hostages. The United States hoped and prayed together, as one, for the hostages' safe return.

(12) Bruce Laingen, who served as United States Ambassador to Iran from 1979 to 1980 and was the highest ranking diplomat held hostage, summed up the experience by saying the following: "Fifty-three Americans who will always have a love affair with this country and who join with you in a prayer of thanksgiving for the way in which this crisis has strengthened the spirit and resilience and strength that is the mark of a truly free society." It is now the responsibility of the people of the United States to honor the spirit, resilience, and strength that the hostages displayed during their 444 days of imprisonment.

(13) Now, more than 4 decades later, the United States continues to honor the hostages. The recipients of the award bestowed by this Act are heroes in every sense of the word. They are role models who wore their pride in the United States with esteem and have allowed for subsequent generations to appreciate the blessing of living in the United States. Today, as we mark 40 years since their release, the people of the United States acknowledge their endurance, strength, and contributions to seeing a more peaceful world. The hostages suffered for the United States and now it is the duty of the United States to recognize them for it.

SEC. 3. DEFINITION.

In this Act, the term "hostage" means a person of the United States who was taken captive on November 4, 1979, in Tehran, Iran, at the United States embassy and released on—

- (1) July 11, 1980; or
- (2) January 20, 1981.

SEC. 4. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.

(a) AWARD AUTHORIZED.—The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements for the award, on behalf of Congress, of a single gold medal of appropriate design to the 53 hostages of the Iran Hostage Crisis, in recognition of their bravery and endurance throughout their captivity, which started on November 4, 1979, and lasted until January 21, 1981.

(b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For the purposes of the award referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary of the Treasury (referred to in this Act as the "Secretary") shall strike a gold medal with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions, to be determined

by the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of State.

(c) SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Following the award of the gold medal under subsection (a), the gold medal shall be given to the National Museum of American History of the Smithsonian Institution, where it shall be available for display as appropriate and made available for research.

(2) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the Smithsonian Institution should make the gold medal received under paragraph (1) available for loan, as appropriate, so that the medal may be displayed elsewhere.

SEC. 5. BRONZE DUPLICATE MEDALS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in bronze of the gold medal struck pursuant to section 4, at a price sufficient to cover the cost thereof, including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses.

(b) PROCEEDS OF SALES.—The amounts received from the sale of duplicate medals under subsection (a) shall be deposited in the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund.

SEC. 6. AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS.

There is authorized to be charged against the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund such amounts as may be necessary to pay for the costs of the medals struck under this Act.

SEC. 7. STATUS OF MEDALS.

(a) NATIONAL MEDALS.—The medals struck pursuant to this Act are national medals for purposes of chapter 51 of title 31, United States Code.

(b) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of section 5134 of title 31, United States Code, all medals struck under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

SEC. 8. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled "Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation" for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

BIG CAT PUBLIC SAFETY ACT

Ms. HASSAN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 263, which was received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 263) to amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to clarify provisions enacted by the Captive Wildlife Safety Act, to further the conservation of certain wildlife species, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. LANKFORD. Madam President, today I would like to enter into a colloquy with the senior Senator from Connecticut to discuss the Big Cat Public Safety Act. Section 3 of the bill amends title 16 of the U.S. Code, section 3372(e) by striking the entire subsection and inserting new prohibitions on private ownership of big cats, reg-

istration requirements for existing private owners, and new regulation parameters for facilities that display these animals to the public.

Striking all of subsection (e) to insert the bill's proposed language eliminates a standing protection of State authority to enact and enforce their own laws in this area. Section §3372(e)(4) currently states that "nothing in this subsection preempts or supersedes the authority of a state to regulate wildlife species within that state." By striking this protection against Federal preemption, Federal authorities and regulators would have the ability to supplant any State action or policy unless there are other sections of U.S. Code that protect the rights of States.

Senator BLUMENTHAL, do you understand this to be the case?

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Yes, I do.

Mr. LANKFORD. In light of this protection of State authority being eliminated from statute by the Big Cat Public Safety Act, I would like to clarify that there are existing protections that apply to the entire chapter in which this bill amends. Title 16 of U.S. Code section 3378(a) states that "nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prevent the several states or Indian tribes from making or enforcing laws or regulations not inconsistent with the provisions of this chapter."

While this preemption provision is not nearly as clear as the one that will be removed by the Big Cat Public Safety Act, it is our intention and understanding that it will preserve the long-standing policy that the provisions being amended by this bill will not preempt or supersede the authority of a State to regulate wildlife species within that State.

Senator BLUMENTHAL, do you agree that State authority should and will be protected on this issue as it has historically been?

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Yes, I do.

Mr. LANKFORD. Madame President, I thank Senator BLUMENTHAL for helping clarify the intent and effects of the Big Cat Public Safety Act on this matter and would like to reiterate that we are not negating State authority with these changes within the bill. The Big Cat Public Safety Act will close the loopholes of private ownership that now exist and fill the gaps that exist within State laws where such prohibitions do not currently exist.

For States that have existing authorities addressing this area or any State that may enact and enforce such authorities in the future, Federal Agencies and authorities will not preempt or supersede them unless expressly authorized by that State.

Now, with this clarification and a commitment from the senior Senator from Connecticut to help include language in an upcoming authorization bill to affirm the clarifications made today, I will lift my hold on this bill.

Ms. HASSAN. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill was ordered to a third reading and was read the third time.

Ms. HASSAN. I know of no further debate on the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate on the bill, the bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (H.R. 263) was passed.

Ms. HASSAN. I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNLEASHING AMERICAN INNOVATORS ACT OF 2022

Ms. HASSAN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 571, S. 2773.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2773) to amend the Leahy-Smith America Invents Act to address satellite offices of the United States Patent and Trademark Office, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on the Judiciary with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic as follows:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Unleashing American Innovators Act of 2022”.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **DIRECTOR.**—The term “Director” means the Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the Office.

(2) **OFFICE.**—The term “Office” means the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

(3) **PATENT PRO BONO PROGRAMS.**—The term “patent pro bono programs” means the programs established pursuant to section 32 of the Leahy-Smith America Invents Act (35 U.S.C. 2 note).

(4) **SOUTHEAST REGION OF THE UNITED STATES.**—The term “southeast region of the United States” means the area of the United States that is comprised of the States of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Arkansas.

SEC. 3. SATELLITE OFFICES.

(a) **AMENDMENTS TO PURPOSE AND REQUIRED CONSIDERATIONS.**—Section 23 of the Leahy-Smith America Invents Act (35 U.S.C. 1 note) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking “increase outreach activities to”; and

(ii) by inserting after “Office” the following: “, including by increasing outreach activities, including to individual inventors, small businesses, veterans, low-income populations, students, rural populations, and any geographic group of innovators that the Director may determine to be underrepresented in patent filings”; and

(B) by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

“(2) enhance patent examiner and administrative patent judge retention, including patent ex-

aminers and administrative patent judges from economically, geographically, and demographically diverse backgrounds.”; and

(2) in subsection (c)(1)—

(A) in subparagraph (D), by striking “and” at the end;

(B) in subparagraph (E), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(F) with respect to each office established after January 1, 2023, shall consider the proximity of the office to anchor institutions (such as hospitals primarily serving veterans and institutions of higher education), individual inventors, small businesses, veterans, low-income populations, students, rural populations, and any geographic group of innovators that the Director may determine to be underrepresented in patent filings.”.

(b) **SOUTHEAST REGIONAL OFFICE.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall establish a satellite office of the Office in the southeast region of the United States.

(2) **CONSIDERATIONS.**—When selecting a site for the office required under paragraph (1), the Director shall consider the following:

(A) The number of patent-intensive industries located near the site.

(B) How many research-intensive institutions, including institutions of higher education, are located near the site.

(C) The State and local government legal and business frameworks that support intellectual property-intensive industries located near the site.

(c) **STUDY ON ADDITIONAL SATELLITE OFFICES.**—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall complete a study to determine whether additional satellite offices of the Office are necessary to—

(1) achieve the purposes described in section 23(b) of the Leahy-Smith America Invents Act (35 U.S.C. 1 note), as amended by this section; and

(2) increase participation in the patent system by individual inventors, small businesses, veterans, low-income populations, students, rural populations, and any geographic group of innovators that the Director may determine to be underrepresented in patent filings.

SEC. 4. COMMUNITY OUTREACH OFFICES.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Subject to paragraphs (2) and (3), not later than 5 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall establish not fewer than 4 community outreach offices throughout the United States.

(2) **RESTRICTION.**—No community outreach office established under paragraph (1) may be located in the same State as—

(A) the principal office of the Office; or

(B) any satellite office of the Office.

(3) **REQUIREMENT FOR NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND REGION.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The Director shall establish not less than 1 community outreach office under this subsection in the northern New England region, which shall serve the States of Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine.

(B) **CONSIDERATIONS.**—In determining the location for the office required to be established under subparagraph (A), the Director shall give preference to a location in which—

(i) as of the date of enactment of this Act—

(I) there is located not less than 1 public institution of higher education and not less than 1 private institution of higher education; and

(II) there are located not more than 15 registered patent attorneys, according to data from the Office of Enrollment and Discipline of the Office; and

(ii) according to data from the 2012 Survey of Business Owners conducted by the Bureau of the Census, less than 45 percent of the firms (as that term is defined for the purposes of that Survey) are owned by women, minorities, or veterans.

(b) **PURPOSES.**—The purposes of the community outreach offices established under subsection (a) are to—

(1) further achieve the purposes described in section 23(b)(1) of the Leahy-Smith America Invents Act (35 U.S.C. 1 note), as amended by this Act;

(2) partner with local community organizations, institutions of higher education, research institutions, and businesses to create community-based programs that—

(A) provide education regarding the patent system; and

(B) promote the career benefits of innovation and entrepreneurship; and

(3) educate prospective inventors, including individual inventors, small businesses, veterans, low-income populations, students, rural populations, and any geographic group of innovators that the Director may determine to be underrepresented in patent filings, about all public and private resources available to potential patent applicants, including the patent pro bono programs.

SEC. 5. UPDATES TO THE PATENT PRO BONO PROGRAMS.

(a) **STUDY AND UPDATES.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall—

(A) complete a study of the patent pro bono programs; and

(B) submit the results of the study required under subparagraph (A) to the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives.

(2) **SCOPE OF THE STUDY.**—The study required under paragraph (1)(A) shall—

(A) assess—

(i) whether the patent pro bono programs, as in effect on the date on which the study is commenced, are sufficiently serving prospective and existing participants;

(ii) whether the patent pro bono programs are sufficiently funded to serve prospective participants;

(iii) whether any participation requirement of the patent pro bono programs, including any requirement to demonstrate knowledge of the patent system, serves as a deterrent for prospective participants;

(iv) the degree to which prospective inventors are aware of the patent pro bono programs;

(v) what factors, if any, deter attorneys from participating in the patent pro bono programs;

(vi) whether the patent pro bono programs would be improved by expanding those programs to include non-attorney advocates; and

(vii) any other issue the Director determines appropriate; and

(B) make recommendations for such administrative and legislative action as may be appropriate.

(b) **USE OF RESULTS.**—Upon completion of the study required under subsection (a), the Director shall work with the Pro Bono Advisory Council, the operators of the patent pro bono programs, and intellectual property law associations across the United States to update the patent pro bono programs in response to the findings of the study.

(c) **EXPANSION OF INCOME ELIGIBILITY.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Director shall work with and support, including by providing financial support to, existing patent pro bono programs and intellectual property law associations across the United States to expand eligibility for the patent pro bono programs to an individual living in a household, the gross household income of which is not more than 400 percent of the Federal poverty line.

(2) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Nothing in paragraph (1) may be construed to prevent a patent pro bono program from electing to establish a higher eligibility level, as compared to the level described in that paragraph.

SEC. 6. PRE-PROSECUTION ASSESSMENT PILOT PROGRAM.

(a) **PILOT PROGRAM.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall establish a pilot program to assist first-time prospective patent applicants in assessing the strengths and weaknesses of a potential patent application submitted by such a prospective applicant.

(b) **CONSIDERATIONS.**—In developing the pilot program required under subsection (a), the Director shall establish—

(1) a notification process to notify a prospective patent applicant seeking an assessment described in that subsection that any assessment so provided may not be considered an official ruling of patentability from the Office;

(2) conditions to determine eligibility for the pilot program, taking into consideration available resources;

(3) reasonable limitations on the amount of time to be spent providing assistance to each individual first-time prospective patent applicant;

(4) procedures for referring prospective patent applicants to legal counsel, including through the patent pro bono programs; and

(5) procedures to protect the confidentiality of the information disclosed by prospective patent applicants.

SEC. 7. FEE REDUCTION FOR SMALL AND MICRO ENTITIES.

(a) **TITLE 35.**—Section 41(h) of title 35, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking “50 percent” and inserting “60 percent”; and

(2) in paragraph (3), by striking “75 percent” and inserting “80 percent”.

(b) **FALSE CERTIFICATIONS.**—Title 35, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in section 41, by adding at the end the following:

“(j) **PENALTY FOR FALSE ASSERTIONS.**—In addition to any other penalty available under law, an entity that is found to have falsely asserted entitlement to a fee reduction under this section shall be subject to a fine, to be determined by the Director, the amount of which shall be not less than 3 times the amount that the entity failed to pay as a result of the false assertion, whether the Director discovers the false assertion before or after the date on which a patent has been issued.”; and

(2) in section 123, by adding at the end the following:

“(f) **PENALTY FOR FALSE CERTIFICATIONS.**—In addition to any other penalty available under law, an entity that is found to have falsely made a certification under this section shall be subject to a fine, to be determined by the Director, the amount of which shall be not less than 3 times the amount that the entity failed to pay as a result of the false certification, whether the Director discovers the false certification before or after the date on which a patent has been issued.”.

(c) **LEAHY-SMITH AMERICA INVENTS ACT.**—Section 10(b) of the Leahy Smith America Invents Act (35 U.S.C. 41 note) is amended—

(1) by striking “50 percent” and inserting “60 percent”; and

(2) by striking “75 percent” and inserting “80 percent”.

(d) **STUDY ON FEES.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall—

(A) complete a study of the fees charged by the Office; and

(B) submit the results of the study required under subparagraph (A) to the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives.

(2) **SCOPE OF STUDY.**—The study required under paragraph (1)(A) shall—

(A) assess whether—

(i) fees for small and micro entities are inhibiting the filing of patent applications by those entities;

(ii) fees for examination should approximately match the costs of examination and what incentives are created by using maintenance fees to cover the costs of examination; and

(iii) the results of the assessments performed under clauses (i) and (ii) counsel in favor of changes to the fee structure of the Office, such as—

(I) raising standard application and examination fees;

(II) reducing standard maintenance fees; and

(III) reducing the fees for small and micro entities as a percentage of standard application fees; and

(B) make recommendations for such administrative and legislative action as may be appropriate.

Ms. HASSAN. I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported substitute amendment be agreed to; the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed; and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The committee-reported amendment, in the nature of a substitute, was agreed to.

The bill (S. 2773), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

REQUIRING THE COMMISSIONER OF U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION TO ESTABLISH PROCEDURES FOR CONDUCTING MAINTENANCE PROJECTS AT PORTS OF ENTRY

Ms. HASSAN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 526, S. 3903.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3903) to require the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to establish procedures for conducting maintenance projects at ports of entry at which the Office of Field Operations conducts certain enforcement and facilitation activities.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill which had been reported from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic as follows:

SECTION 1. PORT MAINTENANCE.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 411(o) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 211(o)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (4); and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following:

“(3) **PORT MAINTENANCE.**—

“(A) **PROCEDURES.**—

“(i) **IN GENERAL.**—Subject to subparagraphs (B) and (C), the Commissioner, in consultation with the Administrator of the General Services Administration—

“(I) shall establish procedures by which U.S. Customs and Border Protection may conduct maintenance and repair projects costing not more than \$300,000 at any Federal Government-

owned port of entry where the Office of Field Operations performs any of the activities described in subparagraphs (A) through (G) of subsection (g)(3); and

“(II) is authorized to perform such maintenance and repair projects, subject to the procedures described in clause (ii).

“(ii) **PROCEDURES DESCRIBED.**—The procedures established pursuant to clause (i) shall include—

“(I) a description of the types of projects that may be carried out pursuant to clause (i); and

“(II) the procedures for identifying and addressing any impacts on other tenants of facilities where such projects will be carried out.

“(iii) **PUBLICATION OF PROCEDURES.**—All of the procedures established pursuant to clause (i) shall be published in the Federal Register.

“(iv) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—The publication of procedures under clause (iii) shall not impact the authority of the Commissioner to update such procedures, in consultation with the Administrator, as appropriate.

“(B) **LIMITATION.**—The authority under subparagraph (A) shall only be available for maintenance and repair projects involving existing infrastructure, property, and capital at any port of entry described in subparagraph (A).

“(C) **ANNUAL ADJUSTMENTS.**—The Commissioner shall annually adjust the amount described in subparagraph (A) by the percentage (if any) by which the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers for the month of June preceding the date on which such adjustment takes effect exceeds the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers for the same month of the preceding calendar year.

“(D) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Nothing in this paragraph may be construed to affect the availability of funding from—

“(i) the Federal Buildings Fund established under section 592 of title 40, United States Code;

“(ii) the Donation Acceptance Program established under section 482; or

“(iii) any other statutory authority or appropriation for projects described in subparagraph (A).”.

(b) **REPORTING.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall submit a report to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate, the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate, the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives that includes the elements described in paragraph (2).

(2) **ELEMENTS.**—The report required under paragraph (1) shall include—

(A) a summary of all maintenance projects conducted pursuant to section 411(o)(3) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as added by subsection (a) during the prior fiscal year;

(B) the cost of each project referred to in subparagraph (A);

(C) the account that funded each such project, if applicable; and

(D) any budgetary transfers, if applicable, that funded each such project.

(c) **TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.**—Section 422(a) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 232(a)) is amended by inserting “section 411(o)(3) of this Act and” after “Administrator under”.

Ms. HASSAN. I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported substitute amendment be agreed to; the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed; and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The committee-reported amendment, in the nature of a substitute, was agreed to.

The bill (S. 3903), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

THE CALENDAR

Ms. HASSAN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Veterans' Affairs be discharged and the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of the following bills en bloc: H.R. 5481, H.R. 6722, H.R. 6863, H.R. 7903, H.R. 7925, and S. 5016.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the bills en bloc.

Ms. HASSAN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the bills be considered read a third time and passed and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, all en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MASTER SERGEANT JERRY K. CRUMP VA CLINIC

A bill (H.R. 5481) to name the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Forest City, North Carolina, as the "Master Sergeant Jerry K. Crump VA Clinic" was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

RICHARD A. PITTMAN VA CLINIC

A bill (H.R. 6722) to designate the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in French Camp, California, as the "Richard A. Pittman VA Clinic" was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

LT. COL. LUKE WEATHERS, JR. VA MEDICAL CENTER

A bill (H.R. 6863) to designate the medical center of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Memphis, Tennessee, as the "Lt. Col. Luke Weathers, Jr. VA Medical Center" was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

MAJOR GENERAL OLIVER W. DILLARD VA CLINIC

A bill (H.R. 7903) to designate the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic located in Canton, Michigan, as the "Major General Oliver W. Dillard VA Clinic" was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

SY KAPLAN VA CLINIC

A bill (H.R. 7925) to designate the Department of Veterans Affairs commu-

nity-based outpatient clinic located in Palm Desert, California, as the "Sy Kaplan VA Clinic" was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

COLONEL MARY LOUISE RASMUSON CAMPUS OF THE ALASKA VA HEALTHCARE SYSTEM ACT OF 2022

A bill (S. 5016) to designate the medical center of the Department of Veterans Affairs located in Anchorage, Alaska, as the "Colonel Mary Louise Rasmuson Campus of the Alaska VA Healthcare System", and for other purposes, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed as follows:

S. 5016

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Colonel Mary Louise Rasmuson Campus of the Alaska VA Healthcare System Act of 2022".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) Mary Louise (Milligan) Rasmuson was born April 11, 1911, in East Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

(2) Mary Louise received a Bachelor of Science degree from the Carnegie Institute of Technology and a Master of Education degree from the University of Pittsburgh.

(3) Mary Louise was one of the first two women to receive an Honorary Doctorate of Laws degree from the Carnegie Institute of Technology.

(4) In 1942, Mary Louise joined the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps as a Private and was in the first graduating class.

(5) Mary Louise worked up the ranks, and in 1957, President Dwight Eisenhower appointed Mary Louise as the Fifth Director of the Women's Army Corps and she was reappointed to this position by President John F. Kennedy in 1961.

(6) In 1962, Colonel Rasmuson retired from the Army.

(7) Colonel Rasmuson was recognized for her outstanding service in the Women's Army Corps with the Legion of Merit award with two Oak Leaf Clusters for her work in expanding the roles and duties of women in the Army, as well as her role in integrating Black women in the Women's Army Corps.

(8) Colonel Rasmuson became Director of the Women's Army Corps during tumultuous times and is credited with enhancing the image and recruitment of women into the Women's Army Corps during her years as the Director.

(9) Colonel Rasmuson expanded opportunities for women to serve in assignments previously reserved only for men, starting with the assignments of 12 enlisted women into the First Missile Master Unit at Fort Meade, Maryland.

(10) Colonel Rasmuson was instrumental in enabling women to be promoted above the grade of E-7 into the highest enlisted ranks of the Army, E-8 and E-9.

(11) During her time in the Women's Army Corps, Colonel Rasmuson was the guiding force behind the Army opening up the college enlistment option to women under the self-enhancement programs and witnessed the first female enlisted member attend college under those programs.

(12) The career of Colonel Rasmuson also laid the groundwork for women to be fully

integrated into the United States Army when the Women's Army Corps was disbanded in 1978.

(13) In 1961, Mary Louise married a prominent leader in Alaska, Elmer E. Rasmuson, and she was the first Director of the Women's Army Corps to be married while serving in that position.

(14) After her retirement from military service in 1962, Mary Louise moved to Alaska where she continued her leadership as a veteran in her community in Alaska.

(15) Mary Louise served as First Lady of Anchorage after the devastating magnitude 9.2 earthquake in 1964, after her husband, Elmer, was elected as mayor, serving from 1964 to 1967.

(16) Mary Louise was an advocate of social justice, education, and the arts during her 45 years of work on the Board of the Rasmuson Foundation.

(17) Mary Louise served as the Honorary Chair and was a major founder to renovate the Anchorage Veterans Memorial on the Delaney Parkstrip in downtown Anchorage.

(18) Mary Louise also contributed to the Army Women's Museum, the National Museum of the American Indian, and the National Museum of the United States Army.

(19) Mary Louise was the Chair of the Anchorage Museum Foundation and helped establish the museum in Anchorage, serving as its Chair for 21 years.

(20) On July 30, 2012, Mary Louise died at her home in Anchorage, at the age of 101, but her legacy of character and leadership will endure as an example to all who serve in the United States military.

SEC. 3. DESIGNATION OF COLONEL MARY LOUISE RASMUSON CAMPUS OF THE ALASKA VA HEALTHCARE SYSTEM.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The medical center of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Anchorage, Alaska, shall, after the date of the enactment of this Act, be known and designated as the "Colonel Mary Louise Rasmuson Campus of the Alaska VA Healthcare System".

(b) REFERENCE.—Any reference in any law, regulation, map, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the medical center referred to in subsection (a) shall be considered to be a reference to the Colonel Mary Louise Rasmuson Campus of the Alaska VA Healthcare System.

THE CALENDAR

Ms. HASSAN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of the following bills en bloc: Calendar No. 471, H.R. 700; Calendar No. 477, H.R. 6614; Calendar No. 518, H.R. 228; and Calendar No. 555, H.R. 3175.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bills en bloc.

Ms. HASSAN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the bills en bloc be considered read a third time and passed and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, all en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

LAWRENCE M. 'LARRY' WALSH SR. POST OFFICE

A bill (H.R. 700) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 303 East Mississippi Avenue in Elwood, Illinois, as the "Lawrence M. 'Larry' Walsh Sr. Post Office"

was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

ROSA LOUISE MCCAULEY PARKS POST OFFICE BUILDING

A bill (H.R. 6614) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4744 Grand River Avenue in Detroit, Michigan, as the “Rosa Louise McCauley Parks Post Office Building” was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

NORMA COMNICK POST OFFICE

A bill (H.R. 228) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2141 Ferry Street in Anderson, California, as the “Norma Comnick Post Office Building” was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

ROBERT S. MCKEITHEN POST OFFICE BUILDING

A bill (H.R. 3175) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 135 Main Street in Biloxi, Mississippi, as the “Robert S. McKeithen Post Office Building” was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

NATIONAL WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA DAY

Ms. HASSAN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 859, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 859) designating December 17, 2022, as “National Wreaths Across America Day”.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Ms. HASSAN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 859) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today’s RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF NOVEMBER 14 THROUGH NOVEMBER 18, 2022, AS NATIONAL FAMILY SERVICE LEARNING WEEK

Ms. HASSAN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Sen-

ate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 860, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 860) expressing support for the designation of November 14 through November 18, 2022, as “National Family Service Learning Week”.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Ms. HASSAN. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 860) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today’s RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

REMEMBERING THE DECEMBER 6, 2019, TERRORIST ATTACK AT NAVAL AIR STATION PENSACOLA

Ms. HASSAN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 861, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 861) remembering the December 6, 2019, terrorist attack at Naval Air Station Pensacola and commemorating those who lost their lives, and those who were injured, in the line of duty.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Ms. HASSAN. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 861) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today’s RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2022

Ms. HASSAN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, December 7; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their

use later in the day, and morning business be closed; that upon the conclusion of morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the Hopkins nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Ms. HASSAN. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:04 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, December 7, 2022, at 10 a.m.

DISCHARGED NOMINATION

The Senate Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration of the following nomination by unanimous consent and the nomination was placed on the Executive Calendar:

ELIZABETH FRAWLEY BAGLEY, OF FLORIDA, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE FEDERATIVE REPUBLIC OF BRAZIL.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate December 6, 2022:

THE JUDICIARY

FRANCES KAY BEHM, OF MICHIGAN, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN.

KELLEY BRISON HODGE, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CHRISSIE C. LATIMORE, OF SOUTH CAROLINA, TO BE UNITED STATES MARSHAL FOR THE DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

PETER D. LEARY, OF GEORGIA, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF GEORGIA FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

MCLAIN J. SCHNEIDER, OF NORTH DAKOTA, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE DISTRICT OF NORTH DAKOTA FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

LEIGHA SIMONTON, OF TEXAS, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

DAVID C. DAVIS, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE UNITED STATES MARSHAL FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

SOUTHWEST BORDER REGIONAL COMMISSION

JUAN EDUARDO SANCHEZ, OF TEXAS, TO BE FEDERAL COCHAIRPERSON OF THE SOUTHWEST BORDER REGIONAL COMMISSION.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JAIME E. ESPARZA, OF TEXAS, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

ROGER B. HANDBERG, OF FLORIDA, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

ALAMDAR S. HAMDANI, OF TEXAS, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

MARKENZY LAPOINTE, OF FLORIDA, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

TERRY J. BURGIN, OF NORTH CAROLINA, TO BE UNITED STATES MARSHAL FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

GLENN M. MCNEILL, JR., OF NORTH CAROLINA, TO BE UNITED STATES MARSHAL FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING DR. KARENINA
RELUCIO

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Karenina Relucio as she retires from her position as public health officer and deputy director at the Napa County Health and Human Services Agency.

Dr. Relucio completed her medical training at Rush Medical College in 1995, residency training in Internal Medicine at Tufts—New England Medical Center in 1998 and Infectious Diseases fellowship training at Stanford in 2003. She is board certified in both Internal Medicine and Infectious Diseases. Before coming to Napa County, she was a medical director of public health clinics, assistant health officer and chief of infectious diseases for the San Mateo County Health System from 2006 to 2015 and a clinical instructor at Stanford University Medical Center from 2003 to 2006.

In 2015, Dr. Relucio joined the Napa County Health and Human Services Agency. She runs a division spanning communicable disease control and prevention, chronic disease prevention, emergency preparedness and programs to serve families and children. Dr. Relucio is president of the Health Officers Association of California, past president of California Conference of Local Health Officers, and is on the Board of Directors for the Napa/Solano County Medical Society. Dr. Relucio served as co-chair of the Napa Opioid Safety Coalition and currently participates in multiple local and state collaborations to improve health. She served as a public health leader when she led the COVID-19 pandemic response in Napa County.

Dr. Relucio's exceptional career has earned her awards and commendations such as the Napa Solano Medical Society Physician of the Year in February 2020, the California Legislative Women's Caucus Woman of the Year in March 2021 and Napa Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year in March 2022.

Madam Speaker, it is evident that Dr. Karenina Relucio has served our state through her exceptional career in public health. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor her today.

RICHLAND READINESS CENTER

HON. DAN NEWHOUSE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to mark the grand opening of the Washington National Guard's Richland Readiness Center, the first National Guard facility in Benton County since 1947.

This new, state-of-the-art facility will give our citizen-soldiers a new place to serve and stay during their training by providing ample training, storage, classroom, common areas, and office space for a company of soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 161st Infantry Regiment. The grounds also include classrooms and conference rooms available to the public and will serve WSU Tri-Cities, CBC, HAMMER, Hanford Patrol, local law enforcement groups, and dozens of other community organizations. This will also become the first Washington National Guard facility that is on track to meet a LEED Gold rating for environmental considerations and green cost saving measures.

It is an honor for our district to be home to the men and women who serve our country, and I extend my congratulations to the Washington National Guard for its leadership and many years of service to our Central Washington communities.

MAYOR STEVE AUSTIN

HON. JAMES COMER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mr. COMER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor Mayor Steve Austin of Henderson, Kentucky, who is retiring at the end of the year after serving three terms.

Mayor Austin is a lifelong resident of Henderson. He is a graduate of Holy Name High School and Henderson Community College before he continued his education at Evansville College and at Harvard School of Business regional campus sessions.

Before being elected Mayor, he worked at Henderson's local newspaper, "The Gleaner," for more than four decades, covering a wide range of topics before serving as publisher for 22 years.

I have had the privilege of getting to know Mayor Austin well over the years. While his time as Mayor may be coming to an end, I am confident his dedication and service to Henderson will continue for many years to come.

**RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF
PATRICK ONEAL HARDY**

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Patrick "Hawk" Hardy and express my sincere gratitude for his service to our Nation.

Although he is now a resident of Kountze, Texas, Patrick was born in Port Arthur, Texas, on June 14, 1949. Patrick, known by many as "Hawk," and I first met when we were children. In our youth, we made wonderful memories playing football together.

After graduating from French High School, in Beaumont, Texas, in 1968, Hawk enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps. He bravely served from 1968 to 1970, earning the rank of sergeant. Former Secretary of the Navy, William K. Jones, stated the following citation while awarding Hawk with the Navy Commendation Medal:

For meritorious service, while serving with the Second Battalion, First Marines, First Marine Division in connection with the combat operations against the enemy in the Republic of Vietnam from 20 September 1969 to 11 September 1970. Throughout this period, Sergeant Hardy performed his duties in an exemplary and highly professional manner. Following initial assignment to Company H, he was reassigned as Team Leader of the Marine Liaison Team with the Fifth Battalion, Republic of Korea Marine Corps. Participating in several major combat operations, he repeatedly distinguished himself by his courage and composure under fire. Particularly noteworthy were Sergeant Hardy's achievements on 21 July 1970 as he skillfully coordinated the maneuver of United States Marines and Korean Marines, thereby enabling them to close on an enemy force attempting to cross the Vinh Dien River and kill ten enemy soldiers. Displaying exceptional initiative and resourcefulness, he organized and supervised a training program for personnel in his section, which increased their individual proficiency and enhanced the combat effectiveness of his unit. As a result of his diligent and resourceful efforts throughout his tour in the Republic of Vietnam, the operational effectiveness of his unit was greatly enhanced. By his initiative, superb professionalism, and loyal devotion to duty, Sergeant Hardy earned the respect of all who served with him and upheld the finest traditions of the Marine Corps and of the United States Naval Service.

Hawk attended Lamar University in Beaumont, graduating with an associate degree in law enforcement and a bachelor's degree in criminal justice. He worked as a deputy sheriff in Harris County from 1971 to 1981. In May of 1981, he earned his Doctor of Jurisprudence. Hawk served as a criminal investigator and First Assistant Prosecutor in Hardin, Jasper, and Tyler counties. He was a county attorney for Tyler County in 1984 and later served as the Tyler County District Attorney from 1985 to 1990. Hawk also served as a criminal investigator in Kauffman County and was appointed as the Assistant Prosecutor.

Hawk has been a student of taekwondo since the age of 16. However, in the 1970s, he also made a name for himself on the karate circuit, winning numerous titles and awards. He reached professional status after claiming the 1975 U.S. Karate Championship title. From 2000 to 2008, he competed extensively in Brazilian jiu-jitsu tournaments worldwide, winning 21 gold medals, four silver medals, and seven bronze medals. In 2004, he was the legendary Royce Gracie's first Black Belt, which Hawk stated was his proudest moment in martial arts. Hawk still holds a Black Belt in taekwondo, tang soo do, and Gracie jiu-jitsu, as well as a 5th degree in Shotokan.

Madam Speaker, it is a great pleasure to honor my friend Patrick "Hawk" Hardy. His

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

love for our country is evident in his patriotic service and diligence in protecting and defending it. He is one-of-a-kind.

SUPPORTING H.R. 8025, TO DESIGNATE THE FACILITY OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE LOCATED AT 100 SOUTH 1ST STREET IN MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA, AS THE MARTIN OLAV SABO POST OFFICE

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Ms. McCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 8025, which designates the United States Postal Service facility located at 100 South Street in Minneapolis, Minnesota as the "Martin Olav Sabo Post Office."

Congressman Martin Sabo's public life began 45 years ago when he was elected to the Minnesota State House of Representatives at the young age of 22. He went on to serve with distinction as both House Speaker and minority leader until his election to Congress in 1978. Congressman Sabo served the people of Minnesota for 28 years in the house, retiring in 2006. His Chairmanship of the House Budget Committee in the 1990s set the country on a course that resulted in a federal budget surplus. While serving on the esteemed House Appropriations Committee, Congressman Sabo's astute ability to direct federal funds to key infrastructure projects, like light rail transit, transformed Minneapolis, positioning the Twin Cities for the 21st Century.

It was my profound honor to serve with Martin Sabo as a colleague in the U.S. House. Congressman Sabo was liberal, smart, and his values reflected the very best of Minnesota's traditions and heritage. Congressman Sabo was reserved and quiet Norwegian, but when he spoke the room went silent because everyone knew something worth hearing was about to be said. This made him a giant as a legislator and public servant in both the Minnesota Legislature and Congress. I will always remember Martin as the kindest of souls and one of the most effective and wise public servants I've ever known.

I want to thank Rep. ILHAN OMAR for sponsoring this piece of legislation that pays tribute to a dedicated public servant, wonderful human being, and dear friend and mentor.

CONGRATULATING GARY BIRSCHBACH

HON. RODNEY DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my friend Gary Birschbach. Gary will be recognized as the Distinguished Citizen of the Year by the Greater St. Louis Area Council Boy Scouts of America. This yearly award honors a person who represents the spirit and the values of Scouting throughout the community.

Gary has been involved with Scouting for over 50 years. All 4 of his sons are Eagle

Scouts, with Kevin currently serving as a Cub Scout Leader, and Andy having served as a Girl Scout Troop Leader for 8 years. As someone that truly embodies the cornerstones of the Scout's Oath and Law, Gary is a community leader that Decatur is so fortunate to call its own.

As an owner of several McDonald's restaurants, Gary has had outstanding success in the restaurant business. His work at McDonald's first began 53 years ago when he joined as a crew member until eventually working his way up to becoming the owner of his first location.

Gary has also gone far beyond that success through his generous work of helping others in the community. Gary serves on several boards, sponsors many community events, and has awarded hundreds of thousands of dollars in tuition assistance through the McDonald's Archways program. This year, Gary and his team celebrated hitting the \$500,000 milestone in awards to their employees. Gary's contribution to the program has helped over 250 current and former employees attend college, earn a trade, or high school diploma.

I am thankful to have Gary in the community and know central Illinois is a better place because of him. I commend Gary on this prestigious award and know he will continue doing such needed and very appreciated work for the community. Congratulations, Gary.

HONORING SUPERVISOR BRAD WAGENKNECHT

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Napa County Supervisor Brad Wagenknecht in honor of his service to our community upon his retirement.

Mr. Wagenknecht grew up in the Browns Valley area of Napa and graduated from the University of California, Santa Cruz with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and Elementary Education in 1977. After college, Mr. Wagenknecht began his career as a school teacher with the Napa Unified School District where he has often been instrumental in supporting children with emotional challenges.

In 1984, Mr. Wagenknecht was elected to the Napa City Council and despite the many responsibilities of a life in public office, including a term as Mayor, he has continued to teach to this day. Mr. Wagenknecht was elected to represent the First District on the Napa County Board of Supervisors in 1998.

For more than two decades on the Board of Supervisors, Mr. Wagenknecht has made immeasurable contributions to environmental preservation. He helped gain support from Napa County to join Marin Clean Energy, instituted urban growth boundaries that limit the city's carbon footprint and increased funding for the Napa Open Space District. Mr. Wagenknecht has supported numerous local organizations including the Bay Area Air Quality Management District, the Bay Conservation and Development Commission, the Napa County Children and Families Commission, the California State Association of Counties

and the Area Agency on Aging. In the face of unprecedented challenges such as the 2015 Napa Earthquake, 2017 Northern California wildfires, 2020 LNU Lightning Complex fires and the COVID-19 Pandemic, Mr. Wagenknecht remained resolute in his commitment to help Napa County rebuild and recover.

Mr. Wagenknecht has brought about significant policies to support the arts, libraries, education, youth opportunities, social justice and mental health. He has been dedicated to working with his community and hearing their concerns, holding frequent office hours whenever and wherever he could. As a lifelong athlete who runs 300 days a year, Mr. Wagenknecht has encouraged local sporting events and organizes the annual Napa County basketball game. He is a proud husband to his wife Kathy, father of five and grandfather of one.

Madam Speaker, we thank Supervisor Wagenknecht for his decades of selfless service and commitment to the people of Napa County. His efforts have made our county a more welcoming, green and enjoyable place to live. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

TRIBUTE TO RUDOLPH CORDERO AND WAYNE A. GUTHER

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today in proud recognition of Rudolph Cordero and Wayne A. Guthrie, graduates of Operation Recognition Class of 2022. Operation Recognition is a program organized by the Riverside County Office of Education, with assistance from the Riverside County Department of Veterans' Services, that presents diplomas to residents of Riverside County who were unable to complete high school due to military service in World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, or due to internment in World War II Japanese-American relocation camps. Operation Recognition provides a way to express our appreciation and gratitude for the significant contributions and sacrifices made by our veterans.

Born on November 26, 1947, Rudolph Cordero attended Garfield High School in Los Angeles for three years. Answering the call to serve his country, Rudolph enlisted in the United States Marine Corps, where he served in the Vietnam War from 1965 to 1968 a Hawk System mechanical repairman. He earned a National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, and Vietnam Campaign Medal. Rudolph was honorably discharged in 1968 and began his career as a butcher.

Wayne Guthrie was born on September 1, 1953. He attended Cleveland Heights High School in Ohio from 1968 through 1972, prior to enlisting in the United States Navy. Wayne served in the Vietnam War from 1974 to 1975 as an aviation machinist and a Training Air and Administration of the Reserves. He earned two Navy Achievement Medals, four Good Conduct Medals, a National Defense Ribbon, and a Sea Service Deployment Ribbon. Wayne was honorably discharged in 1994 after 20 years of service and began his career as a computer technician.

On behalf of all Riverside County residents and a grateful nation, I want to thank these veterans for their service to our country and congratulate them on being part of the Operation Recognition Class of 2022.

RECOGNIZING RANDY J. HOWE

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, today I rise to congratulate Randy J. Howe on his retirement after 34 years spent protecting our nation's borders. I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Mr. Howe for his service to our great nation.

After graduating from Niagara University in 1988, Mr. Howe joined the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service in San Diego, California. He went on to work for the newly established U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), where he held various leadership positions, including Preclearance Director, Buffalo Area Port Director, Executive Director of Operations at the CBP Headquarters, and eventually Director of Field Operations for the Laredo Field Office.

As a native of Laredo, Texas, and a strong supporter of our law enforcement agencies along the border, I know just how demanding Mr. Howe's job can be. He and his colleagues are on the front lines of the battle against the importation of illicit drugs and human smuggling. His work is also critical to supporting trade and unlocking supply chains across North America.

Mr. Howe is responsible for operation and enforcement activities at eight international ports of entry that span 450 miles in South Texas. He leads over 3,300 dedicated officers across 18 international crossings, eight airports, three rail crossings, two dams, a sea-port, and a ferry. He also leads the Machinery Center of Excellence, which manages 37 partner accounts, incorporating 191 importers of records representing some of the nation's largest corporations.

I would also like to recognize Mr. Howe's family. He and his wife, Athina, are celebrating 30 years of marriage. His children have followed in their father's footsteps to serve the public good: his son, Mackenzie, is also a CBP officer, and his daughter, Angelina, is a registered nurse.

On behalf of the 28th District of Texas and on behalf of a grateful nation, I want to congratulate Mr. Howe on his well-deserved retirement and thank him for his decades of service. I wish him the best in the next chapter of his life.

COMMENDING PAUL E. FISHER

HON. TED BUDD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mr. BUDD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the life of my fellow North Carolinian, Paul E. Fisher. Mr. Fisher was the driving force behind F&M Financial Corporation and F&M Bank for almost 60 years. He was

a tireless community leader and volunteer until his passing on October 30, 2020.

As Chairman and CEO of F&M Bank, Mr. Fisher believed that community banking offered an opportunity to improve the quality of life for all his clients and the communities he was privileged to serve. He volunteered on the NC Banking Commission for a decade and was President and Treasurer of the NC Banking Association, in addition to serving two terms as Dean of the NC School of Banking.

Forever tied to the success of F&M Bank, Mr. Fisher was better known for his warm heart and decades of local fundraising efforts to build the Saleeby-Fisher YMCA, The Rowan County Chamber of Commerce's Gateway Building, the Rowan Helping Ministries homeless shelter, the Bell Tower Green Park, as well as a myriad of other facilities and causes ranging from the arts, healthcare, human needs, and youth. He always wanted to leave the world a little better than he found it. His drive to plant a tree under whose shade he will never sit was his most telling attribute.

Over his nearly 83 years, Mr. Fisher had a very simple recipe for life: show up, find a way to be useful, and love with all your heart. He was grateful for the friendship and love shown to him by the people of Rowan County, the State of North Carolina, and all those who helped him along life's path.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to commend Mr. Paul E. Fisher of F&M Bank and Salisbury, North Carolina for a lifetime of service to his community.

RECOGNIZING THE COLORADO
MUSIC INSTITUTE

HON. JASON CROW

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mr. CROW. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate the Colorado Music Institute (CMI) in Centennial, Colorado for being recognized as the 2022 National Music School of the Year by the Music Academy Success System.

Founded in 1996, CMI has been at the forefront of the music community in the state of Colorado. CMI has been steadfast in its commitment to teaching students of all ages—believing people are never too old to pick up an instrument and try a new skill. Their reach extends far beyond Colorado—as students from all over the world seek out lessons there.

This year, music schools around the nation worked to regain their rhythm with a return to predominantly in-person learning. Bringing music and joy to the community, CMI has a diverse staff from all over the world cultivating and developing students' musical talent and establishing the foundation for a lifelong love of music. CMI believes that music should be all about joy, therefore aiming to be Colorado's most fun, welcoming, and professional music school.

The National Music School of the Year award is presented annually to a school that has made significant contributions to the music industry. Hundreds of schools around the country compete for this highly prestigious award.

Teachers have a tremendous impact on the lives of their students no matter the age. I

commend CMI for their tireless dedication to their students, and congratulate them for receiving this recognition. It is an honor to recognize CMI and their achievements.

RECOGNIZING STEPHEN P.
DAILEY, P.E., GENERAL MAN-
AGER OF THE FAIRFAX DRAIN-
AGE DISTRICT OF WYANDOTTE
COUNTY

HON. SHARICE DAVIDS

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Stephen P. Dailey, Professional Engineer and General Manager of the Fairfax Drainage District of Wyandotte County for his exemplary professional accomplishments.

Mr. Dailey's career in public service began after graduating from the University of Missouri—Kansas City with a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering and becoming licensed as a professional engineer. He spent 14 years in the municipal well drilling industry prior to his time at Fairfax Drainage District.

Throughout Mr. Dailey's 30-year tenure as General Manager, he was responsible for protecting investments amounting to nearly \$6 billion in a 2,000-acre industrial park. He oversaw preparations and guided flood control operations for multiple record-breaking high-water events, a highlight that only begins to scratch the surface of three decades working in honorable service to Kansas.

Beyond supervising operation and maintenance of the district's complex flood projection system comprised of 5 miles of levee, over 100 relief wells, 12 pump stations and a computerized communications network, Mr. Dailey spent 27 years serving on the Fairfax Industrial Association Board of Directors and over 15 years as an active board member and committee chair of the Missouri and Associated Rivers Coalition, promoting water resource management for effective flood control and navigation works.

I've also had the pleasure of working with Mr. Dailey while in Congress. Last year, I had the pleasure of sponsoring community project funding to perform maintenance of the Fairfax Jersey Creek Upper Levee. I commend Mr. Dailey for his dedication to our state and to our country, and the 120-plus businesses in the Kansas City, Kansas community he has tirelessly worked to support and protect.

HONORING MARY WADE AS IOWAN
OF THE WEEK

HON. CYNTHIA AXNE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to name Mary Wade of Red Oak, Iowa as Iowan of the Week. Mary is a lifelong Iowan who has worked with Nishna Productions for 37 years improving the wellbeing of individuals with disabilities across Southwest Iowa. Mary's dedicated work developing life and job skills for those in need deserves recognition.

Mary began working for Nishna Productions when she was 19 years old, serving as Activity Coordinator and as direct care staff. Mary helped her Nishna Productions clients learn how to cook, clean, and manage money. Mary then became a supervisor at the group homes in Red Oak where she led the staff and continued to work in direct care with the clients. Mary's help growing the skills of her clients ensured that individuals with disabilities can retain independence and find success living in their communities.

Mary then transferred back to work as a Program Instructor with Nishna Productions. Working directly with clients, Mary began to teach classes developing important life skills. From there, Mary transferred to the vocational department to focus on the development of employable skills. Nishna Productions has its own laundry service in which clients can develop working skills, while Nishna Productions also contracts with small businesses to fulfill their basic labor needs. By supporting individuals with disabilities in a comfortable environment, Mary has helped grow confidence with those who need it the most.

Currently, Mary is the lead supervisory staff member at Nishna Production's Red Oak and Shenandoah sites. While she now leads over-all day to day operations, Mary still finds the most enjoyment in direct work with clients. Mary believes that each client is their own unique person and that a one size fits all approach would be ineffective. Providing unique care for each client takes a full team effort, and Mary and her team at Nishna Productions remain committed to tailoring their programming and operations to fit each individual person and the needs of the community.

I am thankful to Mary for her work empowering individuals with support and opportunity to meet their goals, and I am proud to name Mary Wade as Iowan of the Week.

RECOGNIZING UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS SECOND LIEUTENANT JOHN GRAHAM

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to congratulate United States Marine Corps Second Lieutenant John Graham, who recently completed USMC Officer Candidate School at Quantico, Virginia. John was an exceptional member of my staff for the past two years before leaving for Quantico. While we were sad when he departed, we were extremely proud he was going to become a Marine Corps officer. We always want to support our United States Marine Corps and we know that John will be upholding their finest traditions.

HONORING STEVEN METLER

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Steven Metler

in recognition of his dedicated service as a Constituent Service Representative in my Vallejo District Office.

Mr. Metler was born in Vallejo, California and grew up in American Canyon. He attended Solano Community College before enrolling in California State University, Sacramento, where he received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Government in 2016. It was also during this time that he trained in German and spent six months at the Europa-Universität Flensburg studying International Political Economy.

After gaining valuable experience in the customer service industry, and rising to Department Manager of the Napa Walmart, Mr. Metler began his career in public service as an intern in my Napa district office. In this role, Mr. Metler communicated with constituents, helped organize and execute our events, and supported district staff with numerous state and national issues.

In 2020, he joined the staff of Assembly member Cecilia Aguiar Curry as a Field Representative where he liaised with government agencies and continued to assist the people of Napa. Mr. Metler served as a substitute teacher with the Napa Unified School District before he rejoined our team as a Constituent Service Representative in our Napa District Office before transferring to our Vallejo District Office.

As a Constituent Service Representative, Mr. Metler has successfully assisted with over 230 constituent requests ranging from wildfire assistance to passport applications. He has routinely gone above and beyond in his duties, ensuring that our events are well executed and that no constituent is left without the support they deserve. Because of his dedication, Mr. Metler recently won our casework hero award which honors the staff person in our district offices who did the most outstanding job with casework that quarter.

Madam Speaker, we thank Mr. Metler for his hard work, enthusiasm and enduring commitment to the people of California's 5th District. He has been an exemplary member of our staff and a valuable asset to his community. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

RECOGNIZING SHERIFF GREGORY D. COUNTRYMAN

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a dedicated husband and father, trailblazing Law Enforcement Officer and public servant, Sheriff Gregory D. Countryman. Sheriff Countryman was honored as the Community Service Person of the Year by the Controllers Civic and Social Club in Columbus, Georgia on December 3, 2022.

Born in Plains, Georgia, Countryman's family moved to Columbus, Georgia when his father was assigned to Fort Benning. He is a product of the Muscogee County School System, graduating from Baker High School in 1984. Although he struggled in his early life to overcome a learning disability, this challenge did not deter him from seeking higher education. He would go on to earn an impressive collection of degrees, including an Associate's

Degree from Georgia Military College; a Bachelor of Science Degree from Troy State University; a Master of Public Administration Degree from Columbus State University; a Master of Arts in Practical Theology from Ohio Christian University and, finally, a Doctor of Philosophy in Christian Counseling from Saint Thomas Christian University.

Countryman has been a dedicated public servant who has consistently gone above and beyond for the people of the Chattahoochee Valley region. He has dutifully served his community for thirty years as a highly respected law enforcement professional. As a Deputy in the Muscogee County Sheriffs Department, he served in the bureaus of Field services, Court Services, and the Fugitives and Jail Divisions. In 2004, he was elected to serve as the Marshal of Muscogee County, and he would go on to serve three terms.

As Marshal, Countryman was a visionary leader for law enforcement officials in Muscogee County and the state of Georgia. Desiring to improve public safety services beyond his community, he founded the Georgia Marshal Training Network, a non-profit organization to provide education and training to Marshals across the state and served as president of the organization. He believes that education is the passport to the future, and the future belongs to those who prepare for it today. With that vision in mind, he created the Junior Marshal Program for Middle School students which mentored and instilled within them the essential values of citizenship, leadership, education, fun, and teamwork. Since 2005, the Junior Marshal Program worked with nearly 2,000 young people, building lasting relationships between law enforcement and future generations, and making Muscogee County a safer place to live.

In 2020, Marshal Gregory Countryman made history by becoming the first African American to be elected Sheriff of Muscogee County, Georgia. After serving his community faithfully and effectively for over two decades, the people of Muscogee elected him sheriff with nearly 75 percent of the vote, demonstrating great trust in his ability to fairly enforce the laws and make our community safer.

It has been said that "Service is the rent that we pay for the space that we occupy here on this earth." Sheriff Countryman has paid his rent and he has paid it well. In addition to serving as the top law enforcement official for the second largest city in the state, he has given dedicated service to various organizations in his community to include Omega Psi Fraternity, Inc.; Electric City Masonic Lodge No. 322; the Georgia Marshal Training Network; American Legion 267 (SAL Member); the Fraternal Order of Police; the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives; the Police Benevolent Association and the Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police.

Knowing that public safety is a crucial and everchanging field, Sheriff Countryman has not rested on his laurels and has always tried to stay on the cutting edge of Law Enforcement Training and initiatives. He is a graduate of the Georgia Regional Command College Class No. 26, attended the FBI's Law Enforcement Executive Development Seminar (L.E.E.D.S) training, and served as a former Assistant Adjunct Professor at Georgia Military College where he helped effectively train new prospective recruits in the field of law enforcement.

Sheriff Countryman has served and achieved so much in his life, but none of it would have been possible without the grace of God and love and support of his wife, Angela, and their three sons, Christopher, Gregory, Jr. (a Muscogee County Deputy Sheriff) and William.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join my wife, Vivian, and me, along with the more than 730,000 people of the Second Congressional District in recognizing, honoring, and commending Sheriff Gregory D. Countryman on receiving the Community Service Person of The Year Award from the Controllers Civic and Social Club in Columbus, Georgia. We commend and thank him for his selfless service to God, his community, and humankind.

RECOGNIZING SERVICE OF BEN
ROYDEN OGLETREE, JR

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of Ben Ogletree, Jr.

Ben was born on October 6, 1938, in Livingston, Texas. He graduated from Livingston High School in 1956 and married the love of his life, Janice Helen Clark, on January 31, 1958.

Ben graduated in the class of 1960 from the University of Texas, where he earned a bachelor's degree in business administration with a focus on industrial management. He spent the next 25 years overseeing his family's land, timber, and wood products business.

In 1970, East Texas Bancshares, Inc., a bank holding company, elected Ben to serve on their Board of Directors and Executive Committee. As a devoted public servant, he also sat on the Livingston City Council for 32 years, spending 22 of those years as mayor of Livingston. In 1985, Ben became president and Chief Executive Officer of First State Bank. Later, he served as Chairman of the Board for both First State Bank and East Texas Bancshares, Inc. To recognize his years of outstanding service to the community, Polk County named him 1989's Polk Countian of the Year. In 1991, Ben graduated from Southern Methodist University's Southwestern Graduate School of Banking.

After a long career in business, Ben retired in 2005. However, he still serves as Chairman of the Board of Directors for First State Bank. In addition to Ben's earnest commitment to his community, he is also incredibly passionate about flying and has held a commercial pilot's license for more than 50 years with ratings for multi-engine, instrument, and flight instructor. Ben continues to put the needs of others first while enjoying cherished hobbies like hunting, fishing, and spending time with his family. He is the father of three, grandfather to eight, and great-grandfather to five.

Madam Speaker, it is a great privilege to honor my friend, Ben Ogletree, Jr., who has faithfully and humbly served his community, our state, and our Nation.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT
OF EARLE FRANCIS JONES

HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize my dear friend, Earle Francis Jones who recently announced his retirement from Comcast NBCUniversal. Earle has been a fixture on the Hill for many years and I hope my colleagues will join me in congratulating him on a successful and storied career. Furthermore, I'd like to acknowledge the contributions Earle has made to the CBC community. They are too many to list here, but suffice it to say, the CBC can't thank Earle enough for his support and counsel to the CBC and the CBCF throughout the years.

Earle was born in Washington, D.C. to Earle Sr. and the former Sylvia Carroll. He is a product of the District of Columbia Public School system where he attended historic Coolidge High School.

There, he excelled in sports, music, and community service. Earle furthered his education by attending American University in Washington, D.C. He then went on to attend the University of California at Berkeley where he received his Juris Doctorate from the prestigious Boalt Hall School of Law.

Following law school, Earle practiced law at Holland and Hart in Denver, Colorado before entering private practice. During that time, he served on the Judicial Ethics Advisory Board as the Ethics Counselor for Colorado lawyers and as an adjunct Law Professor at the University of Denver.

Upon returning to Washington, D.C., Earle joined Tele-Communications, Inc. (TCI) in 1989 where he served as Division Director for Government Affairs and then its Federal Communications Commission Washington Counsel. For three years, he led Washington, D.C.'s District Cablevision as its General Manager and oversaw Comcast's acquisition of District Cablevision from AT&T in 2001.

In 2009, Earle joined Comcast Corporation's Washington Federal Government Affairs where he cultivated a reputation for being an expert on issues and a sought-after counselor and mentor to many on the Hill—especially in the CBC community.

Madam Speaker, I'm proud to say Earle Jones is my friend. I've always been impressed by his integrity and his ability to have empathy for others. I'd like to thank him for all the years he served on the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Board where he always provided excellent counsel and support.

Please join me in congratulating Earle Jones on a remarkable career and wishing him the best as he spends more time with his son Steve, daughter-in-law Heather and grandchildren Ryan and Rachel.

On behalf of the United States House of Representatives I congratulate Earle Francis Jones on his remarkable career and his contributions to our Country and our community.

HONORING MAJOR CRAIG A.
OVERHOLT

HON. DONALD NORCROSS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mr. NORCROSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Major Craig A. Overholt as he retires from the United States Army. For over two decades, Major Overholt's commitment to service has enabled him to excel in numerous leadership positions throughout the Army, including most recently as an Army Legislative Liaison.

Major Overholt's career began when he enlisted in the United States Army in 2002. He received his commission as a Quartermaster Officer in 2011 after graduating as the Distinguished Military Graduate from the Georgia Southern University ROTC program. Since then, he developed a reputation as a tactical and technical expert, who has served in the most demanding assignments in the Army, including multiple deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan.

I had the distinct honor of hosting Major Overholt as a Defense Fellow in my office. While serving as my Defense Fellow and as a Legislative Liaison, Craig's interpersonal skills and character enabled him to clearly communicate priorities, ensuring members were educated on Army combat systems, modernization programs, and policy initiatives. Due to his exceptional work on military childcare, the Military Officers Association of America awarded him the Colonel Paul W. Arcari Meritorious Service Award, an award that honors congressional staffers who have made significant contributions to the military community. Craig also led multiple Congressional Delegations to various locations around the globe, distinguishing himself by continuously going above and beyond the call of duty to serve the needs of Congress.

This Chamber will feel Major Overholt's absence. On behalf of a grateful nation, I thank Major Craig Overholt for his outstanding leadership and remarkable sacrifices during his time in the Army Legislative Liaison Office and United States Army. I truly appreciate Craig and his family for their unwavering support to our Army, our Soldiers, and our Nation, and I wish him the best in all his future endeavors.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BELLE-
VUE POLICE OFFICER JORDAN
JACKSON

HON. KIM SCHRIER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Ms. SCHRIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Bellevue Police Officer Jordan Jackson, who tragically died while on duty on November 21st.

Officer Jackson was born in Spokane, Washington and attended Issaquah High School, then later attended Central Washington University. Even before his life as a police officer, Officer Jackson devoted his life to public service as a first responder. He was an EMT, volunteer firefighter, and a member of the King County Sheriffs Office Search and Rescue Volunteer K-9 Unit.

Officer Jackson was commended by the department for his leadership and enthusiasm to take on more responsibility and was recently awarded Employee of the Quarter for his excellent quality of work and service to the community.

Officer Jackson resided in Cle Elum and was known as a family man who volunteered often for community events and was always proud to show off his motorcycle to all the kids. He was an avid cyclist and previously worked at the ReCycle Bicycle Shop in Ellensburg. He is survived by his wife Kelsey and his two young children. Our community will miss him dearly, and I am so grateful for his lifelong service and dedication.

HONORING MR. ANSIL LEWIS,
FLORIDA'S THIRD CONGRES-
SIONAL DISTRICT 2022 VETERAN
OF THE YEAR

HON. KAT CAMMACK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mrs. CAMMACK. Madam Speaker, on behalf of Florida's Third Congressional District, we honor Mr. Ansil Lewis as the 2022 Veteran of the Year.

Mr. Lewis served as a Sergeant Major in the United States Marine Corps from 1987 to 2017. While serving, he received the Bronze Star; Legion of Merit; Meritorious Service Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, Combat Action Ribbon, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Navy Unit Commendation, and the Military Outstanding Volunteer Medal. After years of military service, Mr. Lewis has continued to show his dedication to our community as the past Commandant of the Roy S. Geiger Marine Corps League Detachment 1047, a member of the board for Operation Bambas, and the President of the Veterans Council of Clay County.

We thank Mr. Lewis for his service and sacrifices for our Nation and hope that his volunteer spirit will continue for many years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mr. LANGEVIN. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 489 and YEA on Roll Call No. 501.

HONORING MEL ORPILLA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mel Orpilla in recognition of nearly a decade as an invaluable member of my district staff and his service to Vallejo's Filipino community.

Mr. Orpilla was born on September 6, 1961 at the Vallejo General Hospital to Nazario and

Fofelia Orpilla. After studying at California State University, Sacramento and San Francisco State University, he became the Executive Director of the Fighting Back Partnership in 1996. In this capacity, Mr. Orpilla played a major role in the fight against substance abuse in Vallejo, leading an anti-drug coalition, meeting with political leaders, and assisting with grant requests. In 2004, he joined Kaiser Permanente as a Community and Government Relations Manager and in 2013, joined our team as a district representative and was later promoted to a Senior District Representative for the Solano and Contra Costa portions of California's 5th District. He has successfully assisted over 975 constituents with a wide range of requests from government financial assistance to immigration.

Mr. Orpilla has made immeasurable contributions to Vallejo, and in particular its Filipino community. Over the course of more than 25 years, he has led countless workshops and speaking engagements on substance abuse, community support, and the challenges facing Asian American and Pacific Islanders in Northern California. Mr. Orpilla's passion for sharing the Filipino American story, led to him founding the Filipino American National Historical Society of Vallejo and writing his 2004 book *Filipinos in Vallejo*. He has served on the boards of the Salvation Army of Solano County, Rebuilding Together Solano County, the Filipino American National Historical Society and the Benicia Vallejo Humane Society. A descendant of the Cordilleras tribes in the Northern Philippines, Mr. Orpilla is an expert in the ancient Filipino fighting art Balintawak Arnis and teaches it at the Island Warriors Dojo in Vallejo. His heritage can also be seen on the various Ifugao warrior markings tattooed across his body.

Mr. Orpilla is a devoted husband to his wife Nancy, proud father of Jacob and Tony, stepfather to Justine and Gabe and loving caretaker of three dogs, Chiko, Boo-boo and Fatboy.

Madam Speaker, we thank Mr. Orpilla for his dedication and hard work for the people of California's 5th District. His efforts to better his community, build coalitions and preserve proud Filipino traditions will undoubtedly be felt for decades to come. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

HONORING KITSAP COUNTY
COMMISSIONER EDWARD WOLFE

HON. DEREK KILMER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mr. KILMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend and Kitsap County Commissioner, Edward Wolfe. After 8 years of service in his role as County Commissioner, he is retiring.

Prior to serving as County Commissioner, he was a Kitsap attorney for 20 years, founding the litigation firm Wolfe Law Offices in 1997. He is a past president of the Kitsap County Bar Association and a former judge pro tem in county, municipal, and district courts.

Raised in Norfolk, Virginia, Commissioner Wolfe is a graduate of the George Mason University School of Law. He served in the U.S.

Army and was confirmed by the U.S. Senate as Ambassador and Deputy Assistant Secretary of State in both the Ronald Reagan and George H. W. Bush administrations. Community service has long been a part of Commissioner Wolfe's career in Kitsap County. He has been a Bremerton Rotarian for 20 years and board member of the Bremerton Boys & Girls Club and Olympic College Foundation and is past president of the Puget Sound Naval Bases Association and Bremerton Chamber of Commerce.

Ed brought logic, rationality and reason to his discussions and negotiations in all of his responsibilities as county commissioner, fighting for what he thought was the right thing to do. He treated all people respectfully. He stopped to listen to his constituents, advocating for their needs with compassion and a commitment to community. And he worked collaboratively with other elected officials—serving as a productive partner on issue after issue.

Commissioner Wolfe has a long list of accomplishments during his tenure. He led the charge on the opening of the new Bucklin Hill Bridge in Silverdale and invited the Crista Shores residents to be the first to cross it. He was a partner in supporting the opening of a new state of the art hospital in Silverdale. He's been an advocate of funding for a new county courthouse to replace an aging and inadequate facility. Personally, I appreciated his long-time partnership as we worked to turn the dream of a new VA Clinic in Kitsap County into a reality. In addition, throughout the pandemic, Commissioner Wolfe pushed for proactive communication with the community about resources the County and Kitsap Public Health District were providing to support health and safety. He also ensured business needs were heard, proactively communicating local needs to Washington State's governor.

Commissioner Wolfe and his wife, Wendy, are looking forward to spending more time with family including their son Steven, grandson, Owen, and a granddaughter coming in late December.

Madam Speaker, beyond his many accomplishments, I would also like to express gratitude for the partner that Ed Wolfe has been to the members of my team—and to me. I'm proud to call him a friend. Please join me in congratulating Ed Wolfe on his service to Kitsap County and the state of Washington. I wish him all the best in his retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE NAVAL
SUBMARINE LEAGUE

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I am proud to congratulate the Naval Submarine League on their upcoming 40th Annual Symposium, and to thank them for their diligent work to support the men and women of the Silent Service.

The Naval Submarine League was founded in 1982 as a non-profit organization for civilians, as well as active-duty, reserve, and retired military members who remain passionate about the importance of submarines for national security. Members work to promote education, awareness, and research to increase

the practical usage of submarines in today's world.

As we mark the 40th year of the League's existence, we are reminded of the incredible devotion and commitment of our sailors who ply the waters of the globe.

On behalf of the people of Pennsylvania's 13th District, I congratulate the Naval Submarine League on their accomplishments and efforts and join in celebration of their 40th symposium.

HONORING JUDGE JAMES WILLIAM HUFF

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Judge James William Huff, a native of Three Rivers, Texas who has served his community in a multitude of roles for over four decades.

While in school at Texas A&M University, Judge Huff worked as a substitute teacher at Bryan High School. After graduation, he started his career in criminal justice working in courtroom support for the Bexar County District Clerk Criminal Division. Judge Huff then ascended to the role of Patrol Sargent at the University Police Department. Later he served as a Patrol Deputy for Nueces County and then for the Live Oak County's Sheriff Department. In 1987, he was first elected to his current role as Live Oak County Judge, where he has served honorably for the last 36 years.

Judge Huff sits on a number of boards and committees that seek to make Live Oak County a better and safer place to live. He is Chairman of the Coastal Plains Community Center which provides mental health services to 9 counties. As chairman of the Dispute Resolution Services, he helps provide mediation services for 6 different counties. He also

serves as Chairman of the Three Rivers Economic Development Corporation, Workforce Solutions of the Coastal Bend, and is a board member of the 36th Judicial District Juvenile Probation.

Judge Huff has also received numerous accolades for his leadership and service to South Texas. In 2017, Judge Huff received the Senator Rodney Ellis Award for Courtroom Excellence from the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association. He has also received the Texas Gideon Recognition Award from the Texas Indigent Defense Commission which recognized Bee, McMullen, and Live Oak counties for the first regional approach to indigent defense by creating a 3-county public defender's office. Additionally, Judge Huff has been named Citizen of the Year in the cities of Three Rivers and George West.

Madam Speaker, Judge James Huff is an incredible leader with an unwavering commitment to justice and public service. His legacy will have a lasting impact on Live Oaks County.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VICKY HARTZLER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mrs. HARTZLER. Madam Speaker, I missed the vote on H.R. 8876 as the vote closed before I reached the chamber. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 500.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF TIM O'KEEFE

HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Mr. DESAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of Tim O'Keefe as he retires from his role as CEO of the Golden Rain Foundation (GRF) of Rossmore in Walnut Creek.

Tim's compassion and commitment to advocacy have been evident throughout his career. In 1994, he began working for Catholic Charities, serving as Associate Executive Director/Chief Operating Officer. In 2005, Tim stepped into the role of Executive Director at Shelter Inc., helping to provide housing solutions, family support, mental health care, and childcare services for families in need and working to prevent homelessness in the Bay Area. Thanks to Tim's leadership, Shelter Inc. was recognized as one of the top 10 homelessness service providers of the Bay Area. After nearly a decade with Shelter Inc., he stepped into the role of CEO of the Golden Rain Foundation, working on behalf of Rossmore residents.

In his position with GRF, Tim has spearheaded a variety of projects aimed at engaging Rossmore residents and allowing residents to thrive. Under Tim's leadership, GRF has successfully provided a wide range of programs and amenities to the Rossmore community. GRF maintains and provides recreational spaces within Rossmore, enabling residents to easily connect with other community members and promoting an active, healthy lifestyle within the community.

Tim's hard work and dedication have helped to transform the lives of countless Contra Costa and Bay Area residents. Please join me in congratulating Tim as he retires after nearly three decades of public service.

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S6971–S7009

Measures Introduced: Seven bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 5188–5194, and S. Res. 859–861. **Page S6999**

Measures Reported:

S. 3381, to require the Bureau of Indian Affairs to process and complete all mortgage packages associated with residential and business mortgages on Indian land by certain deadlines. (S. Rept. No. 117–232)

S. 3773, to authorize the leases of up to 99 years for land held in trust for the Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation. (S. Rept. No. 117–233)

S. 3789, to amend the Native American Tourism and Improving Visitor Experience Act to authorize grants to Indian tribes, tribal organizations, and Native Hawaiian organizations, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 117–234)

S. 3388, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve benefits administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs. **Page S6999**

Measures Passed:

Empowering the U.S. Fire Administration Act: Senate passed H.R. 7077, to require the United States Fire Administration to conduct on-site investigations of major fires, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Page S7003**

Hassan (for Peters) Amendment No. 6505, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S7003**

Registration for Index-Linked Annuities Act: Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs was discharged from further consideration of S. 3198, to direct the Securities and Exchange Commission to revise any rules necessary to enable issuers of index-linked annuities to register on a form tailored specifically to registered index-linked annuities, and the bill was then passed, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto:

Pages S7003–04

Hassan (for Smith/Tillis) Amendment No. 6506, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S7004**

Iran Hostage Crisis Congressional Gold Medal Act: Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs was discharged from further consideration of S. 2607, to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the former hostages of the Iran Hostage Crisis of 1979–1981, highlighting their resilience throughout the unprecedented ordeal that they lived through and the national unity it produced, marking 4 decades since their 444 days in captivity, and recognizing their sacrifice to the United States, and the bill was then passed. **Pages S7004–05**

Big Cat Public Safety Act: Senate passed H.R. 263, to amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to clarify provisions enacted by the Captive Wildlife Safety Act, to further the conservation of certain wildlife species. **Pages S7005–06**

Leahy-Smith America Invents Act: Senate passed S. 2773, to amend the Leahy-Smith America Invents Act to address satellite offices of the United States Patent and Trademark Office, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S7006–07**

Maintenance Projects at Ports of Entry: Senate passed S. 3903, to require the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to establish procedures for conducting maintenance projects at ports of entry at which the Office of Field Operations conducts certain enforcement and facilitation activities, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S7007–08**

Master Sergeant Jerry K. Crump VA Clinic: Committee on Veterans' Affairs was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 5481, to name the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Forest City, North Carolina, as the "Master Sergeant Jerry K. Crump VA Clinic", and the bill was then passed. **Page S7008**

Richard A. Pittman VA Clinic: Committee on Veterans' Affairs was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 6722, to designate the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in French Camp, California, as the "Richard A. Pittman VA Clinic", and the bill was then passed. **Page S7008**

Lt. Col. Luke Weathers, Jr. VA Medical Center: Committee on Veterans' Affairs was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 6863, to designate the medical center of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Memphis, Tennessee, as the "Lt. Col. Luke Weathers, Jr. VA Medical Center", and the bill was then passed. **Page S7008**

Major General Oliver W. Dillard VA Clinic: Committee on Veterans' Affairs was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 7903, to designate the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic located in Canton, Michigan, as the "Major General Oliver W. Dillard VA Clinic", and the bill was then passed. **Page S7008**

Sy Kaplan VA Clinic: Committee on Veterans' Affairs was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 7925, to designate the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic located in Palm Desert, California, as the "Sy Kaplan VA Clinic", and the bill was then passed. **Page S7008**

Colonel Mary Louise Rasmuson Campus of the Alaska VA Healthcare System: Committee on Veterans' Affairs was discharged from further consideration of S. 5016, to designate the medical center of the Department of Veterans Affairs located in Anchorage, Alaska, as the "Colonel Mary Louise Rasmuson Campus of the Alaska VA Healthcare System", and the bill was then passed. **Page S7008**

Lawrence M. 'Larry' Walsh Sr. Post Office: Senate passed H.R. 700, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 303 East Mississippi Avenue in Elwood, Illinois, as the "Lawrence M. 'Larry' Walsh Sr. Post Office". **Pages S7008–09**

Rosa Louise McCauley Parks Post Office Building: Senate passed H.R. 6614, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4744 Grand River Avenue in Detroit, Michigan, as the "Rosa Louise McCauley Parks Post Office Building". **Page S7009**

Norma Comnick Post Office Building: Senate passed H.R. 228, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2141 Ferry Street in Anderson, California, as the "Norma Comnick Post Office Building". **Page S7009**

Robert S. McKeithen Post Office Building: Senate passed H.R. 3175, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 135 Main Street in Biloxi, Mississippi, as the "Robert S. McKeithen Post Office Building". **Page S7009**

National Wreaths Across America Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 859, designating December 17, 2022, as "National Wreaths Across America Day". **Page S7009**

National Family Service Learning Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 860, expressing support for the designation of the week of November 14 through November 18, 2022, as "National Family Service Learning Week". **Page S7009**

December 6, 2019 Terrorist Attack at Naval Air Station Pensacola: Senate agreed to S. Res. 861, remembering the December 6, 2019, terrorist attack at Naval Air Station Pensacola and commemorating those who lost their lives, and those who were injured, in the line of duty. **Page S7009**

Resignation of Senator Ben Sasse: Senator Ben Sasse, of Nebraska, submitted a letter of resignation from the United States Senate, effective January 8, 2023, at 12 noon. **Page S7003**

Nominations—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the motions to invoke cloture with respect to the nominations of Mia Roberts Perez, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, and John Frank Murphy, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, be withdrawn and that, notwithstanding Rule XXII, at 11:30 a.m., on Wednesday, December 7, 2022, Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination of Mia Roberts Perez, and on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Kai N. Scott, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania; that if cloture is invoked on the nomination of Kai N. Scott, at 1:30 p.m., Senate vote on confirmation of the nominations of Kai N. Scott, and John Frank Murphy; and that at 5 p.m., Senate vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Jeffery Paul Hopkins, of Ohio, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Ohio, and on confirmation of the nomination of Jerry W. Blackwell, of Minnesota, to be United States District Judge for the District of Minnesota; and that the motions to invoke cloture with respect to the nominations of Tamika R. Montgomery-Reeves, of Delaware, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit, and Dana M. Douglas, of Louisiana, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit, ripen following disposition of the nomination of Jeffery Paul Hopkins. **Page S6989**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 10 a.m., Senate resume consideration of the nomination of Jeffery Paul Hopkins, of Ohio, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Ohio. **Page S7009**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 49 yeas to 47 nays (Vote No. EX. 376), Frances Kay Behm, of Michigan, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan.

Pages S6971–78, S6978–88

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 47 yeas to 46 nays (Vote No. EX. 374), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination.

Page S6978

By 52 yeas to 44 nays (Vote No. EX. 377), Kelley Brisbon Hodge, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

Page S6988

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 52 yeas to 43 nays (Vote No. EX. 375), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination.

Page S6979

Juan Eduardo Sanchez, of Texas, to be Federal Co-chairperson of the Southwest Border Regional Commission.

Chrissie C. Latimore, of South Carolina, to be United States Marshal for the District of South Carolina for the term of four years.

Peter D. Leary, of Georgia, to be United States Attorney for the Middle District of Georgia for the term of four years.

McLain J. Schneider, of North Dakota, to be United States Attorney for the District of North Dakota for the term of four years.

Leigha Simonton, of Texas, to be United States Attorney for the Northern District of Texas for the term of four years.

David C. Davis, of Illinois, to be United States Marshal for the Southern District of Illinois for the term of four years.

Jaime E. Esparza, of Texas, to be United States Attorney for the Western District of Texas for the term of four years.

Roger B. Handberg, of Florida, to be United States Attorney for the Middle District of Florida for the term of four years.

Alamdar S. Hamdani, of Texas, to be United States Attorney for the Southern District of Texas for the term of four years.

Markenzy Lapointe, of Florida, to be United States Attorney for the Southern District of Florida for the term of four years.

Terry J. Burgin, of North Carolina, to be United States Marshal for the Western District of North Carolina for the term of four years.

Glenn M. McNeill, Jr., of North Carolina, to be United States Marshal for the Eastern District of North Carolina for the term of four years. **Page S6989**

Nomination Discharged: The following nomination were discharged from further committee consideration and placed on the Executive Calendar:

Elizabeth Frawley Bagley, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Federative Republic of Brazil, which was sent to the Senate on January 20, 2022, from the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations.

Page S6978

Messages from the House:

Page S6997

Executive Communications:

Pages S6997–99

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages S6999–S7000

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Pages S7000–02

Additional Statements:

Pages S6996–97

Amendments Submitted:

Pages S7002–03

Authorities for Committees to Meet:

Page S7003

Privileges of the Floor:

Page S7003

Record Votes: Four record votes were taken today. (Total—377)

Pages S6978, S6979, S6988

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:04 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, December 7, 2022. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S7009.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

FARM BILL

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the 2023 Farm Bill, focusing on research programs, after receiving testimony from Chavonda Jacobs-Young, Under Secretary of Agriculture for Research, Education and Economics; Jason Rowntree, Michigan State University Center for Regenerative Agriculture, East Lansing; Felecia M. Nave, Alcorn State University, Lorman, Mississippi; Katy Martin Rainey, Purdue University Soybean Center, West Lafayette, Indiana, on behalf of the American Seed Trade Association; Steve Ela, Ela Family Farms, Hotchkiss, Colorado; and Deacue Fields, III, University of Arkansas System, Little Rock.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing on certain intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 17 public bills, H.R. 9430–9446; 1 private bill, H.R. 9447; and 1 resolution, H. Res. 1509, were introduced. **Page H8800**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page H8801**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H. Res. 1508, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3648) to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to eliminate the per-country numerical limitation for employment-based immigrants, to increase the per-country numerical limitation for family-sponsored immigrants, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 7946) to provide benefits for noncitizen members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; and for other purposes (H. Rept. 117–590); and Committee on Ethics. In the Matter of Allegations Relating to Representative Madison Cawthorn (H. Rept. 117–591). **Page H8799**

Recess: The House recessed at 9:28 a.m. and reconvened at 10 a.m. **Page H8762**

Recess: The House recessed at 10:41 a.m. and reconvened at 1:04 p.m. **Page H8763**

Veteran Service Recognition Act of 2022: The House passed H.R. 7946, to provide benefits for noncitizen members of the Armed Forces, by a yeas-and-nays vote of 220 yeas to 208 nays, Roll No. 503. **Pages H8763–73**

Pursuant to the Rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on the Judiciary now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted. **Pages H8763–70**

Agreed to:

Vicente Gonzalez (TX) amendment (No. 1 printed in part C of H. Rept. 117–590) that requires the Secretary of Homeland to promulgate regulations to implement this Act not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act (by a yeas-and-nays vote of 213 yeas to 207 nays, Roll No. 502). **Pages H8770–72**

H. Res. 1508, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 3648) and (H.R. 7946) was agreed to by a yeas-and-nays vote of 215 yeas to 201 nays, Roll No. 501, after the previous question was ordered without objection. **Pages H8759–62**

Suspending the Rules and passing bills en bloc: Pursuant to section 3 of H. Res. 1508, Representative Hoyer made a motion to suspend the rules and pass the following bills en bloc, and therefore the or-

dering of the yeas and nays on postponed motions would be vacated to the end that all such motions would be considered as withdrawn:

H.R. 8844;

S. 198, amended; and

S. 1687, amended, by a yeas-and-nays vote of 380 yeas to 46 nays, Roll No. 504. **Pages H8773–75**

Suspensions—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures. Consideration began Monday, December 5th.

Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Act of 2022: S. 4052, to reauthorize a program for early detection, diagnosis, and treatment regarding deaf and hard-of-hearing newborns, infants, and young children, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 408 yeas to 17 nays, Roll No. 505; **Page H8775**

SBA Cyber Awareness Act: Concur in the Senate amendment to H.R. 3462, to require an annual report on the cybersecurity of the Small Business Administration, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 417 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 506; **Pages H8775–76**

Community Disaster Resilience Zones Act of 2022: S. 3875, to require the President to develop and maintain products that show the risk of natural hazards across the United States, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 333 yeas to 92 nays, Roll No. 507; **Pages H8776–77**

Amending the Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act of 2006 to repeal certain obsolete requirements: S. 3499, to amend the Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act of 2006 to repeal certain obsolete requirements, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 424 yeas to 1 nay, Roll No. 508; **Pages H8777–78**

Rural Opioid Abuse Prevention Act: S. 2796, to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to provide for the eligibility of rural community response pilot programs for funding under the Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Grant Program, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 408 yeas to 11 nays, Roll No. 509; **Page H8778**

Providing Resources, Officers, and Technology to Eradicate Cyber Threats to Our Children Act of 2022: S. 4834, to reauthorize the National Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force Program, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 421 yeas to 1 nay, Roll No. 510; and **Pages H8778–79**

Patents for Humanity Act: Concur in the Senate amendment to H.R. 5796, to amend title 35, United States Code, to establish a competition to award certificates that can be redeemed to accelerate certain matters at the Patent and Trademark Office, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 396 yeas to 24 nays, Roll No. 511. **Pages H8779–80**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Eleven yeas-and-nays votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H8762, H8771–72, H8772–73, H8774–75, H8775, H8776, H8776–77, H8777–78, H8778, H8779, and H8779–80.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Committee Meetings

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: A REVIEW OF PROGRESS MADE AND A PLAN TO ACHIEVE FULL ECONOMIC INCLUSION FOR EVERY AMERICAN

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Diversity and Inclusion held a hearing entitled “Unfinished Business: A Review of Progress Made and a Plan to Achieve Full Economic Inclusion for Every American”. Testimony was heard from Daniel Garcia-Dias, Managing Director, Financial Markets and Community Investment, Government Accountability Office; and public witnesses.

CONFRONTING YEMEN'S HUMANITARIAN AND POLITICAL CRISES WITHOUT A CEASEFIRE

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on the Middle East, North Africa, and Global Counterterrorism held a hearing entitled “Confronting Yemen's Humanitarian and Political Crises Without a Ceasefire”. Testimony was heard from Timothy A. Lenderking, Special Envoy for Yemen, Department of State; and Sarah Charles, Assistant to the Administrator, Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance, U.S. Agency for International Development.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Full Committee began a markup on H. Res. 1456, of inquiry requesting the President and directing the Secretary of State to transmit, respectively, certain documents to the House of Representatives relating to the conclusion of the Department of State on whether Marc Fogel is wrongfully detained; H. Res. 1482, of inquiry requesting the President and directing the Secretary of Defense and Secretary of State to transmit, respectively, certain documents to the House of Representatives relating to Congressionally appropriated funds to the nation of Ukraine from January 20, 2021 to

November 15, 2022; H.R. 9374, the “Countering Malign Russian Activities Globally Act”; H.R. 9243, the “Providing Appropriate Recognition and Treatment Needed to Enhance Relations with ASEAN Act”; H.R. 8654, the “End Tuberculosis Now Act”; and H. Con. Res. 110, commending the bravery, courage, and resolve of the women and men of Iran demonstrating in more than 80 cities and risking their safety to speak out against the Iranian regime's human rights abuses.

LESSONS FROM THE FIELD: OVERCROWDING IN NATIONAL PARKS

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “Lessons from the Field: Overcrowding in National Parks”. Testimony was heard from Jeff Bradybaugh, Superintendent, Zion National Park, U.S. National Park Service, Department of the Interior; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Oversight and Reform: Full Committee held a markup on H. Res. 1479, of inquiry requesting the President transmit certain documents in his possession to the House of Representatives relating to the surveillance or monitoring of prog-gun, pro-life, or conservative groups under the Internet Covert Operations Program operated by the United States Postal Inspection Service; H.R. 8622, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 123 South 3rd Street in King City, California, as the “Chief Rudy Banuelos Post Office”; H.R. 9074, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 333 North Sunrise Way in Palm Springs, California, as the “Chairman Richard Milanovich Post Office”; H.R. 9251, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6444 San Fernando Road in Glendale, California, as the “Paul Ignatius Post Office”; H.R. 9335, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 410 Franklin Street in Appleton, Wisconsin, as the “Mitchell F. Lundgaard Post Office Building”; and H.R. 5468, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 9317 Bolsa Avenue, in Westminster, California, as the “General Tran Hung Dao Post Office”. H. Res. 1479 was ordered reported, as amended. H.R. 8622, H.R. 9074, H.R. 9251, H.R. 9335, and H.R. 5468 were ordered reported, without amendment.

BUILDING A SAFER ANTARCTIC RESEARCH ENVIRONMENT

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Building a Safer Antarctic Research Environment”. Testimony was

heard from Karen Marrongelle, Chief Operating Officer, National Science Foundation; and public witnesses.

BUILDING SUSTAINABLE BUSINESSES THROUGH EMPLOYEE OWNERSHIP AT SBA

Committee on Small Business: Subcommittee on Oversight, Investigations, and Regulations held a hearing entitled “Building Sustainable Businesses through Employee Ownership at SBA”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING REFORM: EXAMINING THE FUTURE OF THE VA GRANT AND PER DIEM PROGRAM

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity held a hearing entitled “Transitional Housing Reform: Examining the Future of the VA Grant and Per Diem Program”. Testimony was heard from Monica Diaz, Executive Director, Homeless Programs Office, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; and public witnesses.

SOLVING THE CLIMATE CRISIS: KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS, ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES, AND THE NEED FOR CONTINUED ACTION

Select Committee on the Climate Crisis: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Solving the Climate Crisis: Key Accomplishments, Additional Opportunities, and the Need for Continued Action”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D1176)

S. 1941, to direct the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to standardize the use of core-based statistical area designations across Federal programs, to allow between 120 and 180 days for public comment on any proposed change to such designations, and to report on the scientific basis and estimated impact to Federal programs for any proposed change to such designations. Signed on December 5, 2022. (Public Law 117–219)

S. 2159, to designate the community-based outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs located at 400 College Drive, Middleburg, Florida, as the “Andrew K. Baker Department of Veterans Affairs Clinic”. Signed on December 5, 2022. (Public Law 117–220)

S. 3510, to require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to issue guidance with respect to natural disaster resilience. Signed on December 5, 2022. (Public Law 117–221)

S. 3655, to amend the Civil Rights Cold Case Records Collection Act of 2018 to extend the termination date of the Civil Rights Cold Case Records Review Board. Signed on December 5, 2022. (Public Law 117–222)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2022

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: business meeting to consider the nominations of Anthony Rosario Coscia, of New Jersey, David Michael Capozzi, of Maryland, Christopher Koos, of Illinois, Samuel E. Lathem, of Delaware, and Robin Lee Wiessmann, of Pennsylvania, each to be a Director of the Amtrak Board of Directors, Robert E. Primus, of New Jersey, to be a Member of the Surface Transportation Board, Sue Ellen Moore, of Washington, and Andrew J. Read, of North Carolina, both to be a Member of the Marine Mammal Commission, Rubydee Calvert, of Wyoming, and Diane Susan Kaplan, of Alaska, both to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, and routine lists in the Coast Guard, 10 a.m., SR–253.

Committee on Foreign Relations: business meeting to consider S. 3386, to prevent, treat, and cure tuberculosis globally, S. 4824, to provide for proper oversight of North Korea policy, S. 4064, to facilitate the development of a whole-of-government strategy for nuclear cooperation and nuclear exports, S. 4509, to provide for security in the Black Sea region, S. 4996, to amend the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 to modify the establishment of a coordinator for detained ISIS members and relevant displaced populations in Syria, S. 4955, to amend certain authorities relating to human rights violations and abuses in Ukraine, S. Con. Res. 47, commending the bravery, courage, and resolve of the women and men of Iran demonstrating in more than 80 cities and risking their safety to speak out against the Iranian regime's human rights abuses, S. Con. Res. 16, commemorating the 30th anniversary of Operation Provide Comfort, S. Res. 713, recognizing Russian actions in Ukraine as a genocide, S. Res. 472, reaffirming the partnership between the United States and the Dominican Republic and advancing opportunities to deepen diplomatic, economic, and security cooperation between the two nations, S. Res. 730, remembering the 30th anniversary of the bombing of the Embassy of Israel in Buenos Aires on March 17, 1992, the 28th anniversary of the bombing of the Argentine-Israeli Mutual Association building in Buenos Aires on July 18, 1994, and committing to efforts to uphold justice for the victims of the attacks, S. Res. 322, reaffirming the alliance between the

United States and Bulgaria, congratulating Bulgaria on its July 11, 2021 parliamentary elections, and calling for continued progress in Bulgaria towards combating corruption, respecting the freedom of the press, and protecting minority rights, S. Res. 650, recognizing May 28 as “World Hunger Day”, that the 90th anniversary of the Ukrainian Famine of 1932–1933, known as the Holodomor, should serve as a reminder of repressive Soviet policies against the people of Ukraine, and that Vladimir Putin’s illegal war against Ukraine has diminished Ukraine’s agricultural output and threatens to exacerbate the problems of global hunger on World Hunger Day, H.R. 7240, to reauthorize the READ Act, the nominations of Joey R. Hood, of New Hampshire, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Tunisia, Lucy Tamlyn, of Rhode Island, to be Ambassador to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Jessica Davis Ba, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Cote d’Ivoire, and Rachna Sachdeva Korhonen, of New Jersey, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Mali, Cynthia Dyer, of Virginia, to be Director of the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking, with the rank of Ambassador at Large, Julie D. Fisher, of Tennessee, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Cyprus, Henry V. Jardine, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Mauritius, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Republic of Seychelles, Kathleen Ann Kavalec, of California, to be Ambassador to Romania, George P. Kent, of Massachusetts, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Estonia, Kristina A. Kvien, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Armenia, Kenneth Merten, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Bulgaria, Manuel P. Micaller, Jr., of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Tajikistan, Christopher T. Robinson, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Latvia, Bijan Sabet, of Massachusetts, to be Ambassador to the Czech Republic, Stephanie Sanders Sullivan, of Maryland, to be Representative of the United States of America to the African Union, with the rank and status of Ambassador, and Lynne M. Tracy, of Ohio, to be Ambassador to the Russian Federation, all of the Department of State, L. Felice Gorordo, of Florida, to be United States Alternate Executive Director of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Richard L.A. Weiner, of the District of Columbia, to be United States Director of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Carol Spahn, of Maryland, to be Director of the Peace Corps, routine lists in the Foreign Service, and other pending calendar business, 10 a.m., S–116, Capitol.

House

Committee on Financial Services, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled “An Enduring Legacy: The Role of Financial Institutions in the Horrors of Slavery and the Need for Atonement, Part II”, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific, Central Asia, and Nonproliferation, hearing entitled “Understanding and Addressing Challenges in the Mekong Region”, 10 a.m., 2200 Rayburn and Webex.

Subcommittee on International Development, International Organizations, and Global Corporate Social Impact, hearing entitled “Modernizing International Development Assistance: Opportunities and Challenges”, 2 p.m., 2200 Rayburn and Webex.

Full Committee, continue markup on H. Res. 1456, of inquiry requesting the President and directing the Secretary of State to transmit, respectively, certain documents to the House of Representatives relating to the conclusion of the Department of State on whether Marc Fogel is wrongfully detained; H. Res. 1482, of inquiry requesting the President and directing the Secretary of Defense and Secretary of State to transmit, respectively, certain documents to the House of Representatives relating to Congressionally appropriated funds to the nation of Ukraine from January 20, 2021 to November 15, 2022; H.R. 9374, the “Countering Malign Russian Activities Globally Act”; H.R. 9243, the “Providing Appropriate Recognition and Treatment Needed to Enhance Relations with ASEAN Act”; H.R. 8654, the “End Tuberculosis Now Act”; and H. Con. Res. 110, commending the bravery, courage, and resolve of the women and men of Iran demonstrating in more than 80 cities and risking their safety to speak out against the Iranian regime’s human rights abuses, Time TBA, Location TBA.

Committee on the Judiciary, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 8361, the “Preventing Suicide Through Voluntary Firearm Purchase Delay Act”; H.R. 4130, the “American Music Fairness Act”; H. Res. 1477, calling for the submission to the House of Representatives of certain information in the possession of the Attorney General regarding NICS Indices Self-Submission Forms; and H. Res. 1478, calling for the submission to the House of Representatives of certain information regarding the decision of the President of the United States to institute the “Ghost Gun” Rule, 2 p.m., 2141 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Rules, Full Committee, continue hearing on the Senate Amendment to H.R. 7776, the “Water Resources Development Act of 2022” [James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023]; the Senate Amendment to H.R. 8404, the “Respect for Marriage Act”; H.R. 3648, the “EAGLE Act of 2022”; and H.R. 7946, the “Veteran Service Recognition Act of 2022”, 11:30 a.m., H–313 Capitol.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, hearing entitled “U.S. Coast Guard’s Leadership on Arctic Safety, Security, and Environmental Responsibility”, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Fulfilling our Pact: Ensuring Effective Implementation of Toxic Exposure Legislation”, 10 a.m., HVC–210 and Zoom.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Full Committee, markup on H. Res. 1466, of inquiry requesting the President to transmit certain documents to the House of Representatives relating to the investigation by the intelligence community into the origins of the COVID–19 virus; and H. Res. 1467, of inquiry requesting the President to transmit certain documents to the House of Representatives relating to the use of authorities, personnel,

and capabilities of the intelligence community to conduct domestic activities unrelated to foreign intelligence, 9:30 a.m., HVC-304.

Select Committee on Economic Disparity and Fairness in Growth, Full Committee, business meeting on the Select Committee's final report entitled *Bridging the Divide: Building an Economy that Works for All*, 1 p.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Joint Meetings

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: to hold hearings to examine the Civil Society Campaign to improve the lethality and survivability of the Ukrainian military, 2:30 p.m., SD-562.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Wednesday, December 7

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Jeffery Paul Hopkins, of Ohio, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Ohio.

Senate will vote on confirmation of the nomination of Mia Roberts Perez, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, and on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Kai N. Scott, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, at 11:30 a.m.

Senate will vote on confirmation of the nominations of Kai N. Scott, and John Frank Murphy, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, at 1:30 p.m.

Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Jeffery Paul Hopkins, and on confirmation of the nomination of Jerry W. Blackwell, of Minnesota, to be United States District Judge for the District of Minnesota, at 5 p.m.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 p.m., Wednesday, December 7

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Consideration of H.R. 3648—Equal Access to Green cards for Legal Employment Act.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue.

HOUSE

Axne, Cynthia, Iowa, E1221
Babin, Brian, Tex., E1219, E1223
Bishop, Sanford D., Jr., Ga., E1222
Budd, Ted, N.C., E1221
Butterfield, G.K., N.C., E1223
Calvert, Ken, Calif., E1220
Cammack, Kat, Fla., E1224

Comer, James, Ky., E1219
Crow, Jason, Col., E1221
Cuellar, Henry, Tex., E1221
Davids, Sharice, Kans., E1221
Davis, Rodney, Ill., E1220
DeSaulnier, Mark, Calif., E1225
Gonzalez, Vicente, Tex., E1225
Hartzler, Vicky, Mo., E1225
Joyce, John, Pa., E1224

Kilmer, Derek, Wash., E1224
Langevin, James R., R.I., E1224
McCollum, Betty, Minn., E1220
Newhouse, Dan, Wash., E1219
Norcross, Donald, N.J., E1223
Schrier, Kim, Wash., E1223
Simpson, Michael K., Idaho, E1222
Thompson, Mike, Calif., E1219, E1220, E1222, E1224



Congressional Record

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